A TREATISE OF THE GOUT:

WHERIN

Both its CAUSE and CURE are demonſtrably ſhewn.

To which are added,

Som Medicinal Obſervations concerning the Cure of *Fevers*, &c. by the means of *Acids*.

By JOHN COLBATCH, *a Member of the College of Phyſicians.*

The Third Edition.

LONDON,
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To the Worthy

Dr. *WILLIAM COLE*,

Fellow of the College of Physicians,
LONDON.

Honored Sir,

MY Love to Truth, and the Good and Welfare of Mankind, have ingag'd me in the publishing of the following Piece. I am sure it contains Truth, but the Truths therin contain'd want a much better Champion than my self to assert and defend, against the many and potent Adversaries they are like to encounter. I have therfore presum'd to fix your Name before it, knowing that if you but please to espouse it, my business is don, and the Conquest gain'd; the Reputation you have in the World being sufficient to recommend whatever is

patroniz'd by you. But, *Sir*, the Doctrin herein advanc'd is not new to you, who have long ago practis'd it, even before I knew you; and the wonderful Succeſs you have had in your Practice, is very well known, more eſpecially in *Worceſterſhire*, and the adjacent Counties, among which you long liv'd: and to my certain knowledg, when you were about leaving thoſe parts to com to *London*, the people were as much concern'd, as if they had bin loſing their Common Deliverer, which indeed you were to them. I ſhould be moſt ungrateful if I did not own to the World the Advantage I have receiv'd from your intimat Converſation with me, wherin you have always carried your ſelf more like a Father than a common Friend: and from thoſe grave and ſerious Admonitions receiv'd from you, I have bin ſtimulated to ſtudy Nature to the bottom, that I might arrive at Truth, in which I have bin greatly aſſiſted by you. This Generoſity and Kindneſs I can never forget, as alſo your great Care of my

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ſom Years ago, when my Life was deſpair'd of by all: I am ſure without a Miracle, I could not have eſcap'd the Grave, had it not bin for you; which with all other Kindneſſes I ſhall never ceaſe to acknowledg, and to be

SIR,

Your Faithful and

Obedient Servant,

JOHN COLBATCH.

THE PREFACE.

I *Have long since promis'd a* History of Blood *and the other Juices contain'd in a Human Body, both in their natural and morbid States. This is the second Tract that has slipt out since I made that promise, for which I can make a very good Apology. The* History of Blood, *&c. is a Piece I must fetch out of the Fire, there not being a Page in it that dos not cost me near a Day's Labor and Attendence in my* Laboratory, *to complete; and therfore I can go on but slowly, especially since my Multiplicity of Business requires my being much abroad: Wheras this Tract being compos'd of Observations and Speculations, I have bin able to complete it at those leisure times I have had at Coffee-Houses and other such Places.*

Upon several Reviews I find such a Number of Experiments wanting to make my History of Blood *complete, that my Business will not permit me to finish it in som Years: nay it is so very chargeable a Work, that 'tis more fit to be carried on at the public Expence of the Nation, than by any one privat Hand; and it would be the Honor of the Nation to incourage it. A Thousand Pounds a Year would defray all the Charge of a* Public Labora-

boratory; *and what would such a small Sum be, tho at this time of Necessity, in comparison of the great Advantage the World would receive by it? I am not ignorant how difficult it is to root an Opinion out of mens Minds, when once receiv'd and establish'd, tho on never so false a Bottom; to do which the only Method is by plain and obvious Experiments. If People would lay aside their Prejudice, and set themselves to make Experiments, I am sure they would part with their old Notions, and imbrace my new* Hypothesis.

Truth for a time may be oppress't, but finally suppress't it cannot. Truth is stronger than all Falshood; it is, as one said, Temporis Filia, *the Daughter of Time, and will at length prevail: It is* Simplex & nuda, sed efficax & magna; *simple and naked, but powerful and strong:* Splendet cum obscuratur, vincit cum opprimitur; *It shines when 'tis darken'd, and overcoms when 'tis oppress't.*

I would my self very gladly contribute beyond my Ability towards the setting up of a public Laboratory, by which means I am sure 'tis possible to bring things to a Certainty. What would not People give to save their Lives, and to be freed from Pain? God knows, as the case stands, Physicians can do neither with any sort of Certainty: But by making Multitudes of Experiments, on the Foundation I can easily lay down, the Case may be much alter'd: yet the Burden is too great for any one Man to bear, and were it to be carried on by the Public, it would not be felt.

I have a Multitude of Enemies, who will not ſtick to accuſe and reproach me; and I doubt not but ſom will preſently cry out, That I propoſe a Public Laboratory, hoping to be the Head and Director of it my ſelf, in order to put part of the Allowance into my own Pocket.

To theſe Men I ſhall anſwer in ſhort, that I have no ſuch Aim, but on the contrary would contribute as much as any man of my Fortune towards the carrying of ſo great and uſeful a Work, and would likewiſe ſpend all the Time I can ſpare from my Buſineſs in attending upon it, without expecting the leaſt Reward, except the general one that would accrue to the whole Faculty, in bringing our Profeſſion to ſom ſort of Certainty.

We now grope moſt miſerably in the dark; and it grieves me to the ſoul when I ſee People in diſtreſs, and know not how to help them: If turning over Books would do me any ſervice, I would never ceaſe to do that; but I have too long in vain tried that Method, and till I began to make Experiments, I could act upon no Certainty in any Caſe; and from the Obſervations I have made, I am fully ſatisfied that by numerous Experiments we may arrive at Certainty in the Cure of moſt Diſeaſes.

I have in my Introduction made uſe of a familiar and eaſy Experiment to confirm the Truth of my new Hypotheſis; and if any ſhall take upon them to anſwer what I have ſaid in this, or any of my former Pieces, I expect they ſhould back their Arguments with Experiments, elſe I ſhall

no notice of them.

I have ſaid in my Eſſay *of* Alkaly *and* Acid, *that at that time I had not had many Patients troubled with the Gout; neither has the Number of them yet bin very much increaſed: but from thoſe I have had to do with, I am perfectly ſatisfied, both as to the Cauſe and Cure of it; and I doubt not but all who will faithfully make uſe of the Methods I have laid down, will find them to anſwer their Intentions; for in between forty and fifty Patients, I have not bin above twice or thrice balk'd in my Expectations, and then I had more reaſon to attribute it to the Irregularities and Perverſneſs of the Patients, than the Inſufficiency of the Method.*

The very Medicins themſelves, and the Doſes I have preſcrib'd, muſt very frequently be varied according as Peoples Strength and Conſtitutions vary: and this thing can't be learnt by every new Proſelyte in a minute; it is Time and Obſervation muſt teach People theſe things.

The Hypotheſis on which I build my Practice, I am ſure is true: And if People are once ſatisfied that the Blood's abounding with Alkalious *Particles is the Cauſe of the Gout and other Diſtempers, it neceſſarily follows that* Acids *are only proper to correct the ſaid Alkalin Particles: But however no Man is obliged to uſe thoſe Acids only that I preſcribe, but is left to his liberty to vary them as he pleaſes. It would be very arrogant in me, when the* Materia Medica *is of ſuch vaſt Extent, magiſterially to inſiſt upon the Uſe of any Set of Medicins; I do not in the leaſt pretend to*

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it: but I assert, that the Cause of the Gout is not from the Blood's abounding with Acid, *but on the contrary with* Alkalious *Particles; and therfore if ever we design to attemt the Cure of the said Distemper with any sort of Certainty, it must be by the means of proper Acids, which I my self have hitherto found effectual, and have not the least reason to doubt that I shall continue so to do.*

As I have before said, so I continue to do, that there is a vast difference in Acids; som (as Dr. Grew *observes) are* Acido-Sulphurea, *others* Sulphureo-Acida, *&c. But this Difference in them, and the different Effects they have upon Human Bodies, are only to be known by Time and Observation.*

It cannot be supposed that a Physician who was yesterday for Alkalies, *can to day so turn his hand, as to use* Acids *in so proper a manner as they ought to be. Almost all the Productions of the Vegetable and Mineral Kingdoms are Acids, but differently specificated; and according to the specific Difference, so they have a different Operation. I have before in one of my former Pieces observ'd that there are manifest Acids and occult ones, and each of these have different Operations according as they are specificated by Nature; som work by Stool, others by Urin; som are* Dieuretics, *others* Diaphoretics; *som are* Emettics, *and others are only* Alteratives, *have no visible, sensible Operation. Now tho a Man may be convinc'd of the Necessity of the Use of Acids in general, yet the great Variety there is in them, and their different*

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Operations upon Human Bodies, are only to be learnt by Time and Obſervation.

In all Diſeaſes the Phyſicians have hitherto unanimouſly agreed that Acids have abounded; and if the Acid has abounded to ſuch a degree, that with their Alkalies they could not conquer it, why then the Patient has died. Well, but ſuppoſe this true; How then coms the dead Body to ſtink ſo ſoon? Every body knows that Acids preſerve Animal Subſtances from ſtinking and Corruption; and therfore if the Juices of the dead Body were full of Acids, it is difficult to conceive how the Body ſhould ſo ſoon begin to putrefy; nay it were altogether impoſſible it ſhould be ſo: But Alkalies promoting Putrefaction in Animal Subſtances, from the ſudden Putrefaction of dead Bodies, it is natural to infer, that the Juices were too full of Alkalies, which cauſed firſt the Diſeaſe, then Death, and afterwards the ſudden Putrefaction.

It is ſtill thrown in my diſh that I have not bin educated at the Univerſity, and therfore how came I to be a Phyſician?

I am not aſham'd to own that I have not had Univerſity Education, which I account a Misfortune; but yet I have ſpent as much Mony to qualify me for the Practice of Phyſic, as moſt Men who have ſpent their Times in the Univerſities; I have had ocular Demonſtration for my Mony, whenas ſom of our Univerſity-Men have had only the fuſty Notions of old Ariſtotle *for theirs. I have aim'd at Certainty in the Cure of Diſeaſes, and if I can but once arrive to that*

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(which I will never reſt till I have don) I care for no more. If we could have a Public Laboratory at the Nation's Expence, I ſhall hope to ſee that Matter ſooner effected than it is poſſible to be at the privat Charge of any one Man. It coſts the Nation ſom Hundred Thouſands of Pounds a Year in buying Powder *and* Ball *to deſtroy Mankind (tho in carrying on the moſt juſt War that ever was on foot) and why ſhould there not be one Thouſand Pounds a Year laid out in carrying on thoſe Experiments that would tend to the ſaving Mens Lives? And it would be no diſparagement to the greateſt Men to be Superviſers in a thing of this conſequence, to ſee the Mony faithfully laid out.*

The improving the Doctrin of Specific *Remedies is what deſerves our utmoſt Care and Diligence; and if any one ſhould be ſo kind to me as to communicat any thing of that Nature, it ſhall faithfully be publiſh'd, with the Perſon's Name from whom I had it.*

The wonderful and aſtoniſhing Succeſs I have had in the Cure of Fevers *of all ſorts by the means of* Acids, *has induced me at the latter end of this Piece to publiſh ſom Obſervations of that nature. And I doubt not but if Acids were once brought in faſhion, Fevers would not be accounted ſuch terrible things as they are.*

I have not ſet my Patients Names to my Obſervations, by reaſon many of 'em make a Figure in the World, and I fear would not take it well to have their Names appear in print; but if any ſhall

ſhall doubt the Truth of any one of the Relations, I will inform them of the Perſons Names, and their places of abode, with the Names of the Apothecaries on whoſe Files they may ſee the Preſcriptions.

I have made ſom Reflections upon Phyſicians in general, but thoſe I hint at are principally Foreners, they generally aſſerting the Doctrin of Alkalies, *tho without the leaſt Reaſon in the World. I confeſs there are ſom* London *Phyſicians who have bin very violent againſt me; but from the major part of the* College *I have bin treated with the greateſt Candor and Civility imaginable: And I verily believe, generally ſpeaking, there are not ſo Learned a Body of Men in the World; who inſtead of oppoſing and oppreſſing, would give all the Incouragement imaginable to any who ſhall make new Diſcoveries, which have any Tendence to promote the Good and Welfare of Mankind.*

I muſt confeſs I have bin the warmer in ſom Expreſſions, that therby I might exaſperat thoſe who are my profeſſed Enemies to convince me of my Errors, if what I have advanced are ſuch; otherwiſe to confeſs themſelves miſtaken.

In the following Treatiſe of the Gout, *I have reſerv'd but one Secret, and that is a Medicin obtain'd from the* Pyrittis; *yet to all who will but give themſelves the trouble of nicely inquiring into the ſaid Stone (which to me ſeems one of the greateſt Myſteries in Nature) the ſaid Secret will eaſily be diſcover'd.*

The Alkalieſt, *that univerſal Diſſolvent of* Helmont *and* Paracelſus, *is a thing that has made*

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a great Noiſe in the World; and tho many have bin at vaſt charge in queſt after it, yet I have ſcarce met with any (except one) in our time, who has bin Maſter of it. But on ſom late Experiments made upon the Pyrittis, *I am perfectly ſatisfied that the ſaid noble* Menſtruum *is with little Trouble and Charge to be obtained from this ſo common, yet moſt valuable Subject. In convenient ſeaſon, I will give an account of the Experiments I have made upon it. I have already protur'd a Menſtruum from it, that will readily diſſolve all the Metals and Minerals I have met with: and the utmoſt Extent of it I do not yet know, but as ſoon as I do, the World ſhall have an account of it.*

I have mentioned this for the ſake of ſom honeſt Virtuoſi, *who will be very glad to be inform'd of the Subject from whence this noble Menſtruum may be obtain'd; and if once it coms to be publicly known, it is impoſſible to imagin what great Service Mankind will receive by it.*

I have, beſides my Obſervations concerning the Cure of Fevers, *&c. added to the End of this Piece three or four Letters; one wherof is a Letter I received from Dr.* Baynard *at the* Bath, *with an Account of a ſtrange and extraordinary Cure wrought by Bathing in cold Water; another is only the Poſtſcript of a Letter from Mr.* Matthews *an Apothecary at* Ledbury *in* Herefordſhire, *wherin he gives me an Account of a Specific in the Small Pox, and a very extraordinary Method for the Cure of Convulſions: The third*

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is a Letter from an unknown Hand, upon which I have made ſom Animadverſions.

When Sir Richard Tabor *firſt began to uſe the* Cortex Peruvianus *for the Cure of Agues, every body cried out againſt it as the moſt pernicious Medicin in the World: But by degrees they changed their Tone, and it is now becom ſo extravagantly in vogue, that it is preſcribed by ſom in the Cure of all Diſeaſes, and I believe in a little time will be made uſe of in Plaiſters to cure Corns. By this may be ſeen the Inſtability of Human Nature, Men being more governed by Fancy than Reaſon; that which to day is condemned and exploded, to morrow may be had in the greateſt Eſteem.*

I am morally certain that my new Doctrin of Acids, *which at preſent is ſo much decried, will in a little time obtain the public Vogue, it carrying a Self-evidence and Demonſtration along with it: Nay I doubt not but ſom will be ſo enamored with it, as to uſe* Acids *with as much Reaſon, as others at this time do the* Cortex. *But the Doctrin of* Acids *being of that univerſal Extent, it is almoſt impoſſible that any one can do ſo much Miſchief with them, as is now don by the* Cortex.

Agues *were wont to be accounted* Ludibrium Medicorum, *by reaſon no Phyſician could with Certainty cure them; but at laſt it evidently appearing that the* Cortex *would certainly cure them, a great many people immediatly concluded, that it muſt anſwer all that the* Adepts *have ſaid concerning their celebrated* Panacea's, *in curing all Diſtempers generally accounted incurable; on which*

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ſcore, to the no ſmall diſgrace of the Practice of Phyſic, the Cortex *has bin ſo univerſally preſcrib'd, but with ſo little Succeſs (unleſs in Agues) that even the common people begin to cry out againſt, and be afraid of it.*

Providence has put me on a piece of Work which is the moſt ungrateful in the World, viz. *To encounter with Prejudices that have bin long rooted in mens Minds; and whoever attemts any ſuch thing, will never fail of being cenſur'd by many. 'Tis a common Miſcarriage (ſays* Malbranch) *with all Mankind to be too precipitat in judging; for all Men are obnoxious to Error, and only obnoxious on this Account. But all haſty and raſh Judgments are ever conſonant to Prejudices; and therfore Authors who oppugn them cannot poſſibly eſcape Sentence from all their Judges, who appeal to antient Opinions as the Laws wherby they ought to pronounce. For indeed moſt Readers are both Judg and Party, in reſpect to ſuch Authors: their Judges they are, that Quality is inconteſtable; but they are a Party likewiſe, when diſturb'd by Authors in the poſſeſſion of their antient Prejudices, for which they have the plea of Preſcription, and to which they have bin long accuſtom'd.*

I have heartily indeavor'd to promote the Honor of my Profeſſion, and to inquire after Truth. What I have advanced, I am fully convinced is Truth: But if any one ſhall by ſubſtantial and well grounded Experiments convince me of the contrary, inſtead of being angry with him, I ſhall never ceaſe to love and admire him.

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The INTRODUCTION.

THIS Piece I am ſatisfied will fall into the hands of a great many Ingenious Gentlemen who are not Phyſicians, for whom it will be very natural to ſay, you here pretend to advance a new Hypotheſis in oppoſition to almoſt all Mankind: and tho you refer us to the analyzing of the Blood by the Fire, for a confirmation of the truth of what you ſay; yet that is not ſufficiently ſatisfactory to us; by reaſon we have not an opportunity of making Chymical Experiments, and therfore would be glad of ſom more familiar Demonſtration, wherby we might be ſatisfied without being put to much trouble.

For the ſatisfaction of whom, I ſhall here lay down a Method, and that the very eaſieſt in the World, wherby every man is capable of judging whether my Hypotheſis be true or falſe.

It is well known, even to every Apothecary's Boy, that all *Acids*, ſuch as Oil of *Vitriol*, Oil of *Sulphur per Campanam*, Spirit of *Niter*, Spirit of *Salt*, *Vinegar*, &c. being pour'd upon Syrup of *Violets*, or into a Solution of it, in any aqueous Vehicle, will immediatly turn it from a blue into a very red Color; and as

the Acid is more or leſs ſtrong, ſo will the red Color be of a deeper or paler Dye. On the other hand, all manifeſt Alkalies, ſuch as the Lixivious Salts; all the volatil Spirits and Salts, ſuch as Spirit and Salt of *Hartshorn*, Spirit and Salt of *Sal Armoniac*, Salt of *Vipers*, &c. will turn Syrup of *Violets*, or a Solution of it, either in Spring-Water, or any other aqueous Vehicle, from a blue into a green Color; and as the Alkaly is more or leſs ſtrong, ſo will the green Color be of a pale or deeper Dye.

From the foregoing Experiments it may be naturally infer'd, that if the Serum of the Blood will alter the Color of Syrup of *Violets*, or a Solution of it, from blue to that of Redneſs, it would then be plain that the ſaid Serum did abound with Acid Particles, by reaſon that all Acids, not one excepted, do ſo alter the Color of it. But if, on the other hand, the Serum of the Blood, being mix'd with Syrup of *Violets*, or a Solution of it, inſtead of changing its Color from blue to red, as Acids do, dos, as all other Alkalies, change the blue into a manifeſt green; I think from thence it may reaſonably be infer'd, that it abounds with *Alkalies*: and as it is more or leſs impregnated with Alkalious Particles, ſo the reſult is, either a paler or deeper green.

Now I poſitively aſſert, that I never once could find that the Serum of the Blood, either in this caſe, or any other that I have met

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tion'd, being mix'd with Syrup of *Violets* or a Solution of it, would turn it into any other Color than a green one, as all manifeſt Alkalies, not one excepted, do; but as it has bin more or leſs impregnated with the ſaid Particles, ſo the green Color has bin deeper or paler.

This is ſo familiar and eaſy an Experiment, that every one is capable of making it on all occaſions, Syrup of *Violets* being every where to be had, and there cannot be the leaſt Fallacy or Deceit in it. All manifeſt Alkalies, whether volatil or fixt, do change the Color of Syrup of *Violets*, or a Solution of it, from a blue one to that of Greenneſs; *ergo*, if the Serum of the Blood cauſes the ſame change in the Color of Syrup of *Violets*, it muſt certainly abound with *Alkalious* Particles. All manifeſt *Acids* do change the Color of Syrup of *Violets* from blue to that of Redneſs: But the *Serum* of the *Blood* changes the blue Color into a green one; *ergo* it cannot abound with *Acids*.

This is an eaſy way of arguing, and the plaineſt Demonſtration in the World. There is no one that labors under a Fit of the *Gout*, or any other Diſtemper whether Chronical or Acute, but will be glad to loſe two or three Ounces of *Blood* (tho there be no abſolute neceſſity for *Phlebotomy*) to make this Experiment, upon which ſo much depends.

Every Gentleman is able to reaſon thus with himſelf: My Phyſician tells me that my *Blood* abounds with *Acids* (or at leaſt moſt of the Phyſicians of our Age do ſo) and upon that ſcore gives me *Alkalies* to mortify and correct thoſe *Acids* in my *Blood*. But if my Phyſician ſhould be miſtaken, and inſtead of *Acid* my *Blood* abounds with *Alkalious* Particles; his giving me *Alkalies* muſt increaſe the Matter of my Diſtemper, and inſtead of doing me ſervice, muſt do me the greateſt prejudice imaginable; beſides the great risk I run of loſing my Life, which to every man is the valuableſt thing in the World. Therefore ſince I have ſo fair an Opportunity put into my hands, and by ſo eaſy an Experiment am capable of diſcovering with what Particles my *Blood* abounds, my own Eyes ſhall judge whether *Acids* or *Alkalies* are to be blam'd, whether this Man's Enemies (no leſs than almoſt the whole World, I mean of Phyſicians) or himſelf are to be blam'd. If the Blood abounds with *Acids*, he ought to be kickt out of the Commonwealth, for indeavoring to impoſe upon Mankind: but if on the other hand the Blood abounds with *Alkalious* Particles, he deſerves all the Incouragement in the World for diſcovering to us ſo uſeful and neceſſary a Truth, wherby he expoſes himſelf to the Malice and Rage of ſo many of the reſt of his Profeſſion.

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This Experiment is liable to no Objection that I know of, and by the means of it (I thank God) I can refer my ſelf to every Gentleman, whether the Hypotheſis I have advanced be true or falſe, and I am ſure from Gentlemen I ſhall have Juſtice. The Phyſicians in general have indeavored to expoſe me, but pray why have they don ſo? becauſe their owning me to be in the right, would be an owning of their own Miſtakes. But by this eaſy Experiment I have appeal'd from them to more juſt and upright Judges, for which they cannot blame me; neither would I have don it, had not ſom of them made it their buſineſs to preach againſt me, even in full and open *Coffee-Houſes*: therfore Juſtice to my ſelf, and Charity to Mankind, have oblig'd me thus to plead for Truth, which is not aſham'd to appear, tho in the moſt naked and open Dreſs.

An Ounce or two of *Blood* is to be ſpared in any Caſe; and pray let but People ſee with what reaſon *Alkalies* have bin hitherto given in *Fevers*, *Small Pox*, *Rheumatiſms*, *Scurvys*, *Leproſies*, *Gouts*, &c. It will plainly appear by this Experiment, that the Blood of ſuch Perſons abounds with *Alkalies*; and if ſo, why ſhould we crowd in more Alkalies, unleſs it were to prolong the Diſtemper, to increaſe the number of Fees? People muſt long ſince have known the Truth of this *Hypotheſis*, or they muſt not. If they have not known it, then it's plain they have grop'd in the dark,

and have cur'd Diſeaſes with as much certainty as a blind Man can catch a Hare, as the Proverb is, when we ſpeak of any thing very unlikely. If they have known it before, then the giving of *Alkalies* at the rate that has bin don, is a plain Argument that they have not acted like honeſt Men. But I dare acquit them from this Charge, I do believe they have ſworn *in verbo Magiſtri.* And becauſe a few Book-learn'd Gentlemen have dreamt that the Blood's abounding with *Acids*, has bin the Cauſe of Diſeaſes, therfore right or wrong it muſt be ſo, tho contrary to the moſt obvious and plain Experiments. When I appeal to the analyzing of the Blood by the Fire, my Appeal is to Phyſicians only: and this I have already don, but they have refuſed to do me Juſtice; nay inſtead of doing Juſtice to Truth and me, many of them have abus'd and reproach'd me in all places, ſom calling me Fool, others a mad Man, and all for no other reaſon, that becauſe I have indeavored to advance the Honor and Glory of my Profeſſion, in bringing the Cure of Diſeaſes to ſom ſort of Certainty. Now ſince Juſtice has bin refuſed me by my Brethren, they cannot be angry with me for making my Appeal to thoſe whoſe Intereſt it is to do me Juſtice, and to incourage me in my honeſt Undertakings.

I am heartily ſorry I have bin forc'd to be ſo very warm; but I doubt not that all the honeſt Gentlemen of our Profeſſion will for-

give

give me, when they find I drive at nothing ſave the detecting of Errors, and the advancing of Truth. There is no one can charge me with any thing ſelfiſh (unleſs it be to leave a Name to Poſterity) for the publication of this piece, and writing in that warm manner I have don, by reaſon I have reſerv'd no one Secret to my ſelf, but diſcover'd all I know: and if I can cure the *Gout*, others may do it as well as I; it is but changing ſides, uſing proper *Acids* inſtead of *Alkalies*, and being at a little trouble in making Obſervations.

I want ſom Univerſity-Gloſſes to poliſh over this whole Treatiſe; but Truth, like a Diamond, will ſparkle and ſhew it ſelf, tho incompaſt with Pebles: Nay, Truth needs no fine Gloſſes to put her off, but always appears beſt in a naked Dreſs.

I am ſorry I am conſtrain'd to be the Promulger of this new Doctrin, and am obliged to inculcat it in ſuch Terms as look like Self-commendation. But I have bin too long meal-mouth'd, by which means Truth has ſuffered Damage: My over-modeſty has bin the cauſe that I have bin ſo oppreſt, nay, indeed almoſt ſuppreſt from doing any further good in my Generation. But a conſtant Series of Succeſs has raiſed me up many Friends to ſtand by and ſupport me, and I am therby animated to go on in the Work I have ſo happily begun. Nothing but an extraordinary Providence could have ſupported me againſt ſo many Ene-

mies; as first, all the Surgeons in the World, and afterwards the Physicians: but from the Physicians (especially of this City) I have had by much the faireſt Play, and the moſt civil Treatment; and I muſt do 'em that Juſtice, as to ſay, they are more civil to me every day, for which cauſe I will do all that lies in my power to ſerve 'em. And for the Surgeons, I muſt own I gain Friends among them daily; tho by the means of ſom of them, I and my Family had like to have bin undon, only for indeavoring to do Mankind ſervice.

The following Treatiſe of the *Gout* is built upon my Hypotheſis of *Alkaly* and *Acid*, on which ſcore I thought it neceſſary, by way of Introduction, to publiſh the foregoing eaſy Experiment, that therby the World might be ſatisfied of the Truth or Falſhood of the Hypotheſis.

It is an eaſy matter for any man to mix a little good *Vinegar* or Juice of *Lemons*, with a Solution of Syrup of *Violets*, and to obſerve the Change immediatly made in the Color of it; and at the ſame to mix a little *Serum* of Blood with another Solution of Syrup of *Violets*, and to ſee what a vaſtly different Change that makes in the ſaid Solution. By which means he will clearly diſcern, that the Particles cauſing thoſe different Changes, muſt be vaſtly different. But upon examination of the Change made in the Color of the ſaid Solution by manifeſt Alkalies, it will appear that

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the Particles of them, and the Particles with which the *Serum* of the Blood abounds (eſpecially in the forementionʼd Caſes) are exactly the ſame.

Were there any one manifeſt *Acid* that would not turn a Solution of Syrup of *Violets* from a *blue* Color to a *red* one, or any manifeſt *Alkaly* that would not turn the ſaid Solution from *blue* to *green*, I ſhould not inſiſt ſo much on this Experiment as I have don. But ſince all manifeſt *Acids* do produce a Redneſs, and all manifeſt *Alkalies* a Greenneſs, I have all the Reaſon in the World to believe (had I no other cauſe) that the *Serum* of the Blood abounds with *Alkalious* Particles by reaſon it never fails of turning the *blue* Solution into *Greenneſs*, eſpecially in the Caſes before-mentioned.

Object. Suppoſing your *Hypotheſis* true, and that your Predeceſſors have bin miſtaken; how coms it to paſs that they could ever cure any Diſeaſe?

Anſw. I own they have bin able to cure ſom few Diſeaſes, but how they have don it they themſelves could never tell. If it be certain (as there is not the leaſt reaſon of doubting) that the *Blood* in all or moſt Diſeaſes abounds with *Alkalious* Particles, and at the ſame time they accounted for the *Symtoms* of Diſeaſes from the Blood's abounding with *Acids*, how is it poſſible that the Practice built on ſo falſe

a Bottom could ever be certain or ſucceſsful? But they without being at the trouble of analyzing, or nicely inquiring into the Nature of them, have given *Steel*, *Antimony*, &c. and the ſeveral Preparations of them, and by means therof have cur'd ſeveral Diſeaſes; but they have given them as Alkalies, when at the ſame time they will appear to any inquiſitive Perſon to be Acids. They have alſo given many of the Productions of the *Vegetable* Kingdom, by the means of which many Diſtempers have bin cured; but upon an exact Scrutiny it will appear that moſt *Vegetable* Productions are *Acids*. There is ſcarce one Plant moderatly dried, to free it from the inſipid Phlegm with which moſt Plants abound, that being committed to Diſtillation *per ſe* in a proper Veſſel, will not afford at leaſt nine parts of *Acid* to one of *Alkaly*; the *volatil* Parts or Salts of Plants being Acids, and the *fix'd* ones Alkalies. Now their giving of theſe things has ſtood them in ſom ſtead, and cur'd many Diſtempers by a way of which they were ignorant. The little knowlege we have hitherto had of the true Cauſes of Diſeaſes was the reaſon of *Helmont*'s expreſſing himſelf after that manner, when he ſaid, *Quiſque Artificum facit quod promittit, Statuarius nempe Statuam, Calcearius Calceos indubiè parat, ſolus autem Medicus nil audet ex arte ſpondere ſuâ, quia nititur fundamentis incertis, & non niſi per accidens atque dolosè proficiens.*

That

That there is a Certainty in all Profeſſions but that of Phyſic.

The want of taking pains in making Experiments has bin the only cauſe of building too long the Foundation of our Practice upon ſo falſe a Bottom; and I hope what I have ſaid will excite the Phyſicians of our Age to make ſuch Experiments, that therby we may act upon ſom ſort of Certainty. The Phyſicians of our Time, more particularly of our own Nation, and among them eſpecially thoſe of our *College*, have made more and greater Diſcoveries in *Anatomy* than ever were before, I mean in the Anatomy of the ſolid Parts. But as for the Fluids, thoſe Parts wherin the Cauſe and Seat of moſt Diſeaſes lurk, they have in a great meaſure bin neglected. Yet the *College* abounds with Men of ſuch large Capacities, that if once they ſet about that noble Work, I doubt not but they will ſoon perfect it, to the great Satisfaction and Advantage of Mankind.

As I have before ſaid, ſo I ſhall now repeat it again that I may not be miſunderſtood, that tho I commend *Acids* in the Cure of Diſeaſes, yet I do not pretend that any one *Acid* will anſwer all Intentions, there being a mighty difference in their Operation and Nature. That Acid which will cure an *Acute* Diſtemper, generally ſpeaking, may not cure a *Chronical* one. I have generally obſerved that *volatil* Acids are moſt effectual in *Acute* Diſtempers, and *fix'd* ones in thoſe Diſtempers we call

Chronic.

Chronic. But in these things every Man's Practice must be regulated and govern'd by Observations: For as Physic had its Rise and Original from Observation, so I am sure by that alone it is capable of being brought to perfection.

What has bin said concerning the difference of *Acids*, has only relation to particular Practice; and I have mentioned it upon this account, that after People are fully satisfied that the Cause of Diseases dos not procede from the Blood's abounding with Acid Particles, but on the contrary with Alkalious ones, they should not from thence infer, that any one *Acid* is sufficient to cure all Diseases: For tho it be certain that the Cause of all Diseases procedes from Alkalies, yet there being a vast difference in them, as they differ, so must the Acid, used to mortify and correct the Luxuriant Alkaly, differ. There are volatil and fixt *Alkalies*, as well as there are volatil and fixt *Acids*; or at least they are so, according to the receiv'd Notion we have of *Fixity* and *Volatility*.

I have all this while bin talking as a Physician, but not as a Naturalist; for tho I account for the Cause and Cure of Diseases from *Alkaly* and *Acid*, yet I don't pretend to account for all the *Phenomena* of Nature from those two Principles, tho there have bin those who have undertaken so to do, but I conceive have bin very much mistaken. There are many *Phenomena* in Natural Bodies not to be ac-

accounted for by the mutual Conflict of those two Principles, (if I may so call them) such as *Motion* and *Rest*, *Light* and *Darkness*, *Magnetism*, or the Operation of the *Loadstone*, and a great many others, too many here to insert.

I shall finish this Introduction with an exact Copy of a Letter sent me from my worthy Friend Dr. *Jones*.

Dear Sir,

AS for Acids, *Dr.* Baynard *and your self deserve eternal Praise. I ever had a great Kindness for them, and they will readily cure more Distempers than any other sort of Medicins: They are excellent in the* Plague, Spotted Fever, *and* Small Pox; *and in extraordinary pertinacious* Hemoragies, *with a* Febricula, *they are* instar omnium; *and as dangerous as those Distempers are, will hardly fail to cure them if given plentifully. I have had Experience in the three last, from which you may infer their Prevalency in the* Plague; *but I do not speak it merely upon that Inference, but the several credible Accounts I have had of their use to prevent and cure the* Plague. *The second Year of my Practice I cured about thirty of* Autumnal Fevers *by the plentiful use of Oil of* Vitriol. *I find them the adequat Cure in all Cases wherin the Urin is Lixivial, all Putrefactions, all Scurvies wherin the Gums rot, all Cases wherin the Ordure or Urin are of a very ill scent,* Cholera

lera Morbus, *Jaundice, Stoppage of Urin, ſo-poroſe Affections: in theſe laſt Caſes they excede all things, as they alſo do in* Deliquiums; *all dangerous Effects of* Opium, *of which they are the true Correctors,* Opium *relaxing all the Parts, and they contracting them; all irregular Heats of Feet, Hands,* &c. *Vomitings, want of Appetite;* Morphew, *internally and externally uſed; Bitings of venomous Creatures; tough Phlegm; hard Tumors, unleſs ſchirrous; Drunkenneſs; Diſeaſes of the Mouth that have any Stench or Putrefaction; excellent againſt all* Norcottic *Poiſons whatſoever, to ſmell, take inwardly, or dip in them, which is beſt; nay and excedes all things that the World affords if they be very cold;* Syncopes, *too much Sweating, Sunburnt outwardly, Thirſt,* Furor Uterinus, Priapiſmus, *piſſing bloody Urin from Putrefaction, as in the Small Pox, and when you cannot attribute it to any other Cauſe than Putrefaction: Miſcarriages, Itch inward and outward, Ringworm, Tettar: To preſerve from all Putrefaction both in Man and Beaſt:* Fœtor Alarum, Pollutio Nocturna, Gonnorhea ſimplex; Pedor, *or ſtink of the Feet,* &c.

In all theſe Caſes you may very much depend upon them. Make what uſe you pleaſe of this Catalogue, to print, or what you will; it is intended for your Service.

Your affectionat Lover,

J. JONES.

I ſtill keep the Original Letter by me: And the Author of it is a Man of that Truth and Candor, that he would not have wrote me ſuch a Letter, and given me a liberty of publiſhing it, if he had not bin well ſatisfied and aſſured of the Truth of what he has ſaid: Nay, the Clearneſs of his Reaſon is ſuch, that I never knew him mention any thing he was not able fully to demonſtrat.

Of

Of the Gout.

CHAP. I.

THE *Gout* is called *Articularis Morbus* because it generally affects some of the Joints; and according to the Name of the Joints affected, it has a different Denomination: when it affects the Joints of the Hands or Fingers, it is called *Chiragra*; when it affects the Hip, it is called *Sciatica*; when it affects the Knees, it is called *Gonagra*; when the Feet, *Podagra*; when the Ancles, *Talia*, or *Talla*, &c.

Tho the *Gout* has so many different Names given it, yet I don't at all apprehend but the Distemper is exactly the same, and that the different Names procede only from the difference of the Part affected.

This Distemper is also by some called *Dominus Morborum & Morbus Dominorum*, by reason it is one of the most tyrannical Distempers, and few but Gentlemen and those of the best Rank are troubled with it. It sometimes exercises it self with so much Cruelty and Tyranny, that those who are troubled with it, are almost ready to lay violent hands upon themselves.

The

The *Gout* may be divided into two Species, *viz.* that which is *Adventitious*, and that which is *Hereditary*: and of the two that which is hereditary, is by much the most difficult to be cured, and generally rages with the greatest violence.

The Antients did generally reckon that which we call a *Rheumatism* as a species of the Gout, calling it *Arthritis Vaga*, or the *Wandering Gout*. But herein I apprehend they were much mistaken, a Rheumatism being vastly different from the Gout, as will be shewn in its proper place; tho the Method of Cure is much the same.

Great have bin the Disputes about the original Source or Fountain of this Distemper. Som will have the *Brain* to be the principal Part concern'd, and that from it the morbific Matter is translated to the part affected. Others charge the *Liver*, and som the *Stomach*, as *Helmont*, &c. But for my part I charge the whole Mass of the Blood, and all the Juices, and not any particular part; the Reasons wherof will appear hereafter.

The *Gout* is an Index of it self: no one that feels the pain, but is capable of discerning the difference between it and all other Pains; the Pain of the Gout being a deep, distending, piercing, throbbing, continual and bitter Pain.

I apprehend the Parts most immediatly affected to be the Glandules next adjoining to

the *Perioſtium*, which is one of the moſt ſenſible Membranes in a man's Body.

I cannot agree with thoſe Gentlemen who will have all Pain to procede from a Solution of Continuity, which in plain Engliſh is either a Wound or Ulcer: now for my part I can't ſee why we ſhould not be made ſenſible of any thing that injures us, which whatſoever cauſes Pain dos, without deſtroying the integrity of the Parts; and 'tis plain, whatever cauſes a Solution of Unity muſt deſtroy the integrity of them. Father *Malbranch* tells us that our Senſes are given us to guard our ſelves from Injuries, and that they never fail to anſwer the end for which they were given: They are never guilty of deceiving us; as for inſtance, our *Taſte* (a ſtate of Health ſuppos'd) never tells us that *Bitter* is *Sweet*, or *Sweet Bitter*; our *Smells* never fail of diſtinguiſhing agreable from hurtful *Odors*; our *Feeling* never fails of diſtinguiſhing *Heat* from *Cold*, and *Cold* from *Heat*, and ſo on: and all theſe things procede from a placid Vellication of the Membranes. *Pain* procedes from a contraction of the Fibers, and *Pleaſure* from a placid relaxation of them; which being granted, it neceſſarily follows, that a Solution of the Unity of the Parts ſhould rather produce Pleaſure than Pain, by reaſon that when the Fibers are broken, they are not ſo able to contract themſelves as when they are whole.

I

I don't from this argue that there is no Pain procedes from a Solution of Unity, but that there may be very violent Pains where the Union of the Parts is preſerv'd intire: As for inſtance, a Blow with a blunt thing upon any Part, which only bruiſes it, will occaſion greater Pain than if the ſame Part were cut with a ſharp Inſtrument, tho the one only compreſſes the Parts, and the other divides them aſunder, and ſo makes a perfect Solution of Unity. And I lay it down as a poſitive Aſſertion, that all Pain procedes from a Stagnation of the Juices, which cauſes a Compreſſion of the Membranes; and as the Stagnation and Compreſſion are greater or leſſer, ſo the Pain is: But the ſtagnated Matter, according as it is more or leſs *acrimonious*, ſo it cauſes different ſorts of Pain. *Pain* alſo is different in different parts, according to the difference of the Membranes affected; but there is no Pain in any part without Stagnation.

People have more reaſon to believe there is a Solution of Unity in the Parts affected with the Palſy, where there is a viſible conſumtion and decay, and the Part perfectly waſted; but inſtead of Pain in ſuch parts, they are altogether void of Senſation.

My buſineſs is not now to treat of *Wounds*, and therfore I ſhall not trouble my ſelf to give any account of the Pain which attends them, but only take notice, that it is not from the

diviſion of the Parts, but from the obſtruction of the motion of the Juices in the Edges of them, which occaſions the Pain that attends them; and when once the ſwelling and inflammation of the Parts adjacent are taken away, the Pain ceaſes.

Thoſe who are moſt ſubject to this Diſtemper, are ſuch as live quietly and luxuriouſly; and for want of proper Exerciſe, Nature do not ſufficiently diſcharge the ſuperfluous, excrementitious Juices by the Emunctories deſign'd for that purpoſe. It frequently attend thoſe who have bin once poor, and whoſe Fortune afterwards has bin greatly mended; b which means the manner of their feeding b ing alter'd, and changing a ſpare Diet for more luxurious way of living, they frequentl grow fat, and for want of good Digeſtion an proper Evacuations greatly abound with gro and viſcous Humors. Women are not ſo ſu ject to this Diſtemper as Men, eſpecially they have their Courſes regularly, by mea of which Evacuation they are freed from m ny Diſtempers: but the ſtopping of that E vacuation, or any too great Diſcharges th way, is the only cauſe of many Diſtempe attending that Sex.

The Gout may in general be defin'd to b *a Pain of the Joints and Parts adjacent, occ ſion'd from an extravaſated Alkalin Hum which irritats the Membranes of the Joints, a Parts adjacent.*

T

To prove that the whole Mass of *Blood*, and all the fluid Parts, are originally concern'd in this Distemper, and not any one particular Part, as the *Head*, *Liver*, *Stomach*, &c. the following Arguments will evince.

1. From the general Disorders that precede a Fit.

2. From the Condition of the Blood and Juices during the time of the Fit. Under which Head I shall make it appear that the Blood and Juices during the Fit abound not with *Acid* but *Alkalious* Particles.

(1.) Before people are seized with a Fit of the Gout, they have som general Disorders; and according as their Constitutions are different, so are the Disorders that attend them at this time. But very few (let their Constitutions be what they will) have a Fit of the *Gout*, but they have somthing of a *Fever* before it. Now *Acids* being the only things that hinder *Fermentations*, and prevent *Fevers*, it is impossible they should be in the fault; but *Alkalies* exciting Fermentations, and by consequence causing Fevers, are necessarily here to be blam'd: and were timely care taken to correct the luxuriant alkalious Particles, I am sure it would not be difficult to prevent a Fit; and there is scarce any one that has a Fit of the Gout, but has timely notice to prevent it in case they will take a true Method.

Somtimes the Fits of this Distemper are very regular, returning at certain periods of

time; at other times very uncertain: but that for the moſt part procedes from an irregular way of living, and the debility of Nature.

Dr. *Sydenham*, that honeſt and fair Man, to whom all the World is beholden for his ingenious and candid way of writing, in his Tract *de Podagra*, ſays thus: *Quoties itaque regularis eſt Podagra, hoc ferè modo Ægrum aggreditur*, &c. As oft as the Gout is regular, it attacks people in this manner; at the latter end of *January*, or the beginning of *February*, it all on ſudden invades them, having no other knowlege of it, but that they find a Crudity and Rawneſs of their Stomachs for ſom weeks before, with a windy ſort of Diſtention and heavineſs of the Body; which Symtoms every day increaſe, till at laſt the Tyrant all at once appears: a few days before which there is a ſort of *Drowſineſs*, and as it were a deſcent of Winds thro the fleſhy parts of the Thighs with a *ſpaſmodic* Affection: and the day before the Fit, the Appetit is more voracious than at other times, but not natural. All which Symtoms (except the laſt, and that I have particularly ſpoken of in the *Appendix* to my Eſſay of *Alkaly and Acid*) procede from the abundance of Alkalious Particles, as will particularly be made appear.

The Patient gos tolerably well to bed, but about the ſecond hour after midnight is excited with moſt violent Pain, for the moſt part affecting the great To, ſomtimes the Heel, and

at other times the Ankle; presently there follows a Rigor and Horror, and somthing of a Fever. Thus much for the Symtoms preceding a *Regular Fit*; next follow the Symtoms preceding those Fits called *irregular* ones.

Wheras in regular Fits the Feet only are infested, they seeming to be the most genuin Seat for the morbific Matter, as indeed the Word generally used for this Distemper seems to intimat, *Podagra*, being *Pedis Captura*, a Distemper of the Feet; so when it affects any other Part, it is a most certain sign that the Method of the Distemper is inverted, or that the Parts have lost their Vigor: But as it too frequently happens, either from the use of improper Medicins, or som other Irregularities, it changes its Course, and somtimes affects one part, somtimes another, as the *Hands*, *Wrists*, *Knees*, &c. somtimes it affects the Fingers, and by degrees makes them useless; and in som time there are Nodes produced, containing in them a Substance much like *Chalk* or *Crabs Eyes*, which is seldom generated in any other part but the Fingers or Toes, where the Vessels being small, this gross Alkalious Matter is not capable of being absorbed by the small *Capillary* Vessels, and so by long lying is converted into the foresaid Substance: which being nothing but the morbific Matter indurated, is a clear Demonstration of the *Hypothesis* I have advanced, and am indeavoring to confirm. The indurated

morbific Matter being a plain known *Alkaly*, it is impossible the Distemper can procede from *Acids*: Somtimes the morbific Matter being lodg'd upon the Wrist, causes large white Swellings, I have seen them as big as a large Egg: [and somtimes upon the Joints of the *Fingers*, I having seen all the Joints of both Hands in som persons swel'd to such a degree, that it is almost incredible; and of all Swellings, these white ones are the most difficult to be brought down.] When it affects the *Thighs* (which is very seldom) it causes a sense as if a great Weight were hang'd upon the part; but the Vessels being great, the Obstruction is not so, and so dos not excite very great pain in that part. But when it affects the *Knees*, it causes the most exquisit Torments, and fixes the Patient to the place where he lies as if he were fastned with a Nail, he not being able to move himself at all: yet the Pain is not altogether so urgent during the whole Fit, so the Patient keeps but the Part affected quiet. [When it affects the *Shoulder* also, it puts the Patient into most miserable Pain, and frequently lasts longer than in any other part besides, unless it be the *Heel*, from which part I have somtimes met with a great deal of difficulty in removing it.]

The *Regular Gout* (if so Tyrannical a Distemper can at all deserve that Name) seldom invades people but about the latter end of Winter; and after it has play'd its pranks for two

or three months at furtheſt, it civilly gos off, and leaves the Patient in a good ſtate of Health: But after it becoms irregular, ſom people are never free the whole Year, unleſs in the two or three very hot months, and have frequently the moſt ſharp and violent Pains for fourteen days or more together, without the leaſt remiſſion, attended with Sickneſs, and very frequently an almoſt total loſs of Appetit; which cannot procede from an abundance of Acids, for that excites Appetit, and helps Digeſtion. At thoſe Intervals when the Diſtemper is abated and off, they have generally a great ſtiffneſs and diſorder in thoſe Joints that have bin affected, I mean in *antiquated, irregular* Gouts; for after the Fit of a *regular* Gout, there is no ſuch thing. This is to be obſerv'd that the more years people have labored under this Diſtemper, the leſs violent is their Pain; but then they are generally attended with a greater Sickneſs and Diſorder in their Stomachs: nay, ſomtimes the morbific matter is wholly thrown into the Stomach and Guts, which are membranous parts; and when it is ſo, it ſeldom fails of proving fatal, [unleſs the Symtoms are ſuddenly taken off by proper Remedies.] If it be any ſatisfaction to men in miſery to be accounted among the Number of thoſe who are men of Senſe, all people who are afflicted with the *Gout* may claim that Privilege: For, as to my own part, I never yet met with one Blockhead or Fool

ever

ever troubled with it, which is taken notice of by almost all that have written upon this Subject.

The Blood's abounding with too great a quantity of Alkalious Particles, is the general Cause of this Distemper, in order to which there are several other things that concur: As,

First; Too moist a state of Air, which hinders free Transpiration, and wherby the Excrementitious Alkalin Particles, which should be thrown out by the *cutaneous* Pores, are retained; and the quantity of Excrementitious Alkaly, which is thrown out that way, those Passages being free, is not inconsiderable; which Particles being retained in the Blood, do greatly contribute to the raising of this unruly Devil, which the wisest Magicians hitherto have not bin able to lay, and which has bin the occasion of this Saying,

Solvere nodosam nescit Medicina Podagram.

And this is one of those Devils which is not to be cast out but by Prayer and Fasting; that is, Nature without help, is not able to get the mastery of it, or to rid her self from it. But alas, for want of a true knowlege of the general Cause of this Distemper, Nature has hitherto rather bin oppress't than assisted; this *Hydra* not being to be overcom but by pouring in fresh Battalions arm'd with pointed Spears

Spears and Lances upon him, *viz.* by giving large quantities of Medicins, whose Particles are pointed, and therby made capable of dividing the gross obstructing Matter, and turning it into a state of Fluidity.

Secondly; The use of many sorts of Meat, and too great Ingurgitation therof; for by that means the Stomach is oppress't, and Digestion hindred; by which means the whole Oeconomy of the Body is put out of order, and a Foundation laid for more Distempers than that of the Gout only; the Stomach being to the Body as the Root to the Tree, or a Spring-head to a River: for if the Spring or Fountain-head be muddy, or troubled, the Streams that come from it must be so also; if the Root of the Tree be vitiated, the Branches cannot be supplied as they ought. Good Digestion makes good Chyle, and good Chyle makes good Blood; but if the Chyle be vitiated by ill Digestion, the Blood made by it must be vitiated also, and consequently must be the cause of bringing those Distempers upon people to which they are subject. For as my Predecessors have accounted for the general Cause of all Diseases from too geeat an *Acidity* of the Blood and Juices, and according to the difference in the Body and Part affected, the Distemper has differ'd; so I, who account for the general Cause of all Diseases from the abundance of *Alkalious* Particles, don't think I do amiss in following the Foot-

steps

steps of my great Predecessors in this, that the same Alkaly, which thrown upon the Joints causes the *Gout*, being thrown upon the Lungs may cause a *Phtisis* or *Consumtion*; and upon the Membranes of the Brain, may cause a Stagnation and Extravasation of the Blood, and occasion an Apoplexy, *&c.*

Thirdly; The often use of strong Wines, especially fasting, by which means the Blood and Juices being impregnated with the Spirits of the said Wine, these Spirits meeting with the volatil Alkalious Salt of the Blood, by a mutual conjunction or combination of them, are turn'd into that Substance (or somwhat like it) which *Helmont* calls his *Offa Albe*, which coagulated Substance not being capable of moving with the Blood and Juices thro the small Vessels, causes Obstructions: and that the Gout procedes from obstructing, corrosive Particles, I believe no one doubts. Likewise the said vinous Spirits acting upon the Nerves, do cause them to lose their Tensity, I mean when the said Liquors are drunk in too large quantities, and often repeated: for a small quantity of Wine drank at convenient Seasons dos raise the Spirits, and invigorate the Nerves; but a Bow overbent becoms good for nothing: and any thing else that is of a springy nature being overprest, makes them lose their Springiness altogether; so the Nerves being over excited by large quantities of Wine, at last lose their Tone, and instead of

of extended Cords they becom lax, and by that means are made uncapable of exciting or actuating the Membranes, the ſenſible Parts, which are made up of nothing elſe but nervous *Fibrillæ*; ſo that groſs Particles being thrown upon them, they are made uncapable of freeing themſelves from the ſaid Particles, and all becauſe they have loſt their wonted Vigor. The whole *Oeconomia Animalis* is perform'd by Relaxation and Contraction, as will be ſhewn more at large in its proper place; and when the Parts, *viz.* the nervous Fibers, have loſt their Tone, they are not able to disburden themſelves of the excrementitious or morbific Particles caſt upon them: wheras when they are in a due ſtate of Tenſion, if any heterogeneous Particles are caſt upon them, they readily throw them off; and there is nothing ſo much deſtroys the Tenſity of the Nerves as hard Drinking: wherfore it was well ſaid by a certain Poet,

Una Salus ſanis, nullam potare Salutem.

He that in Health would long remain,
From drinking Healths he muſt refrain.

Fourthly; The immoderat uſe of Venereal Exerciſes, which ſpends the Spirits, and decays natural Heat, and ſo procures a Weakneſs to all the parts of the Body. Every man experiences, that by a few Venereal Imbraces his Spirits

Spirits becom more languid, and his Body more weakned, than by the loss of a large quantity of Blood. It has bin observ'd, and is what I believe generally holds true, that few or none are ever troubled with the Gout before Marriage, or the use of Venery; and yet the *Roman* Priests of all sorts both Regular and Secular, who profess Chastity and abjure Matrimony, are as frequently troubled with this Distemper as any people in the world. It is a vain thing to suppose, as som have don, that the Reason why Children have not the Gout as well as grown People, is, because the Juices of their Bodies are not so very acrid, whenas we frequently see them as much or more subject to *scrophulous* Tumors, *&c.* than grown Persons are, which procedes from nothing else but an extraordinary Acrimony of the Juices. There is nothing puts the Spirits into that violent Motion, and exagitats them so much as Venereal Exercises; and whatever violently exagitats the Spirits, must weaken the Nerves, and make them unfit to perform their Offices, which is to contract the Parts, and inable them to throw off whatever is noxious or hurtful to them: wheras, when they have lost their Tone, they are unfit for that Office. There is a twofold Motion in mens Bodies, *viz.* a voluntary and involuntary one; the voluntary one is when we move all or any particular part at our own pleasure: and there is no one that I know denies but all

Animal

Animal Motion is perform'd by the mediation of the Nerves. Involuntary Motion is that which is perform'd whether we will or not, being executed as well when we are sleeping as waking; ſuch is the Motion of the Lungs, Heart, Arteries, *&c.* Now one great End of involuntary Motion is, that the Parts being contracted or ſqueez'd together, they may throw off all noxious, excrementitious Particles by Pores prepar'd for that purpoſe, which cannot be rightly don when the Parts have loſt their Springineſs and Tone.

Fifthly; Overmuch Sleep, eſpecially in the Afternoon, and that immediatly after Dinner. It is generally allow'd and made appear by ſeveral Great Men, but more particularly by my worthy Friend Dr. *Cole*, that there is a univerſal Relaxation of the Nerves and nervous Fibers during the time of Sleep, but more eſpecially of thoſe Parts not made uſe of for involuntary Motion; and the Parts uſed for involuntary Motion have not that occaſion for it as the other Parts have, they wanting but a ſmall ſupply of nutritious Particles in compariſon of the others. Now during the time of the relaxation of the Parts they receive the Matter for their Nutrition into them, as that excellent Perſon well obſerves; but the ſaid Matter cannot be applied to them till Sleep is over, and the Parts com to a ſtate of Contraction; by means of which Contraction, ſo much as is neceſſary is applied to them, what is ſuperfluous is taken

taken or preſt into the receptory Glands, and carried again into the Blood-veſſels by the *Lymphæducts*, and the excrementitious Parts diſcharged by the excretory Glands. Thus it is in a ſtate of Health, and that it ſhould be ſo is abſolutely neceſſary; for while we are awake there are vaſt waſtes and loſs of Subſtance, as I have obſerv'd *Nov. Lum. Chyr.* pag. . and that this waſte ſhould be ſupplied is not only convenient, but abſolutely neceſſary, which cannot be more commodiouſly don than while we are aſleep: the Nerves and nervous Fibers being lax, the Parts are more capable of admitting the nutritious Particles into them than at any other time. That there is a univerſal Relaxation of all the Parts during the time we ſleep, is paſt diſpute; and that it ſhould be ſo is abſolutely neceſſary: for all the Nerves and nervous Fibers while we are awake (a ſtate of Health being ſuppoſed) are kept in a full Extenſion, like a bent Bow, or extended Fiddleſtrings, which, if their Extenſion be overlong continued, do therby becom uſeleſs: therfore to preſerve and keep them fit for uſe, it is found neceſſary to eaſe them of their Tenſion ſomtimes, that therby they may be ſerviceable upon occaſion. Thus it is with the Nerves, which being always extended when we are awake, it is neceſſary they ſhould be relax'd during the time of Sleep, that therby being ſupplied with freſh Spirits, they may be fitted for the Morrow's Action.

But as Sleep moderatly uſed affords this great Convenience, ſo by peoples overmuch indulging themſelves in it, it proves very detrimental: by continuing the Nerves and Fibers too long in a ſtate of Laxity, they receive too great a quantity of Humidity into them, and therby becom unfit for Action. not being able to throw off the excrementitious Juices, nor apply the nutritious ones as they ought to be; which is the reaſon that thoſe who ſleep much, eſpecially after Dinner, are generally groſs and unweildy, the Fibers being clog'd, and ſo uncapable of rightly diſpoſing the Juices that are lodg'd upon or in them, or performing any other animal Offices as they ought. It is commonly ſeen that thoſe who much indulge themſelves in ſleeping are full of Juices, and generally lazy; wheras ſuch as content themſelves with a moderat quantity of Sleep are vegete and ſpritely, and fit for all manner of Undertakings. Tho I allow Nutrition to be perform'd while we are aſleep, yet I believe the quite contrary as to Digeſtion of ſolid Food in the Stomach, that not being to be don but when the Fibers of the Stomach are ſo vigorous and tite, as to be able to ſqueeze out the Chyle into the ſmall Guts as faſt as it is made; none of the Juices of our Bodies being any other way made than by Comminution and Compreſſion, or Mixture; of which Office the Stomach is altogether uncapable when we are aſleep. And all People (very few except-

ed) who eat Suppers late at night, find a Load of undigeſted Matter upon their Stomach next morning; and, as I ſaid before, Digeſtion being hindred, the Chyle muſt be depraved, and by conſequence all the other Juices. As eating late Suppers is very pernicious, of conſequence ſleeping after Dinner muſt have the ſame effect, it being only from peoples going to bed, and ſleeping after ſupper, which makes that hurtful: for would they uſe as much Exerciſe, and continue as long from Sleep after Supper as Dinner, they would be both of equal advantage; but ſince Man can't live without ſleeping, and Night being the moſt proper time for it, all things being quiet and ſtill at that time, it is neceſſary that People ſhould eat their full Meals at ſuch times as the Stomach is moſt capable of digeſting them. And we generally find that thoſe who moſt indulge themſelves with Sleep, eſpecially after Meat, tho they have groſs corpulent Bodies, yet they are generally ſubject to Diſeaſes, and are ſeldom long-liv'd, which argues that Digeſtion is not well perform'd.

Sixthly; Overmuch Watching, and Faſting, and Study, Sorrow and Care, and much Labor, becauſe they ſpend the Body, and cauſe a weakneſs in the Parts therof, may occaſion the Gout. It is a common Maxim, that *Omne Nimium vertitur in Vitium*; ſo the Nerves and nervous Fibers being kept in a ſtate of Laxity too long, by being overcharg'd with ſlimy moiſt

moiſt Particles, are hardly to be brought to a due ſtate of tenſity again: and being too long kept in a ſtate of Extenſion, by that means loſe their Tone, which is not again to be reſtor'd but with the greateſt difficulty imaginable. A Bow being kept long bent, or Fiddleſtrings left extended for any long time, do both of them becom uſeleſs: So it is with the Nerves and the Offsprings of them; the Fibers, which are the only Inſtruments of animal Motion, whether natural or voluntary, when kept too long extended, the Spirits being exhauſted by that means, becom flaccid, and ſo uncapable of throwing off the excrementitious Alkalious Particles, (all the Excrements of Man's Body being *Alkalious*) wherby Obſtructions are cauſed, and by that means Pain either greater or leſs according as the Obſtruction is, or the Particles more or leſs acrid.

Seventhly; Overmuch Reſt and Eaſe do greatly contribute to the producing of this Diſtemper, by reaſon that for want of due Exerciſe many Superfluities are retain'd in the Body, which by moderat Exerciſe would be diſcharg'd. Moderat Exerciſe puts the Blood and Juices into a brisk and nimble Motion, by which means Tranſpiration is greatly promoted; and Tranſpiration being one of the greateſt and moſt advantageous Evacuations, that being hindred, or not ſufficiently promoted, muſt be of univerſal diſadvantage to the whole Body.

Eighthly; Sudden Reſt, and expoſing the Body to the Air in cold or moiſt Seaſons after any violent Exerciſe, is as great a Cauſe of this Diſtemper, and many others, as any one thing beſides. All ſorts of Exerciſe, as before obſerv'd, do ſet the Blood and Juices into brisk Motion; which Motion being ſuddenly check'd, and Tranſpiration hindred on a ſudden, the excrementitious Particles, which would otherwiſe have bin carried off that way, are thrown upon ſom of the Parts, which by cauſing Obſtructions, and vellicating the Membranes, promote pain in the higheſt degree.

Ninthly; The total leaving off any accuſtom'd Exerciſe is very pernicious, for the Reaſons before-mentioned.

Tenthly; From the keeping of the Feet either too hot or too cold. The Gout is, by way of eminency, generally called *Podagra, quia Pedum uſum impediat*, becauſe it takes away the uſe of the *Feet*, which are more generally affected than any other Part. Now Cold keeps the Nerves in a ſtate of Contraction or Extenſion, and Heat relaxes them; and being either contracted or relaxed too long, for the Reaſons before-mentioned, they loſe their Springineſs, and therby are not capable of throwing off the excrementitious Alkalin Particles, of which all the Parts are full: and the Nerves of the Feet being diſorder'd, having loſt their Tone, a greater Flux of Humors is thrown upon them than any other Part, which

which makes the Gout there more tormenting and troubleſom than in any other Part. It is that Flux of Humors to the lower Parts, which makes the healing of either Wounds or Ulcers in the Legs or Feet much more troubleſom and difficult, than in any of the ſuperior Parts. So it is in the Gout, when the *Feet* or *Ancles*, but eſpecially the *Heels*, are affected, a Fit is much more difficult to be taken off, than from any other Part. So likewiſe when the Tone of that Part is any way injur'd, it much ſooner receives morbific Impreſſions than any Part beſides.

Eleventhly; From the ſtopping of any uſual Evacuation, as the monthly Courſes in Women, and a Flux of the Hemorrhoids in Men, which I have frequently known to keep their certain Periods to a day; by means of which Obſtruction the excrementitious Matter wanting its uſual Vent, is tranſmitted to ſom other part of the Body. And according to the nature of the Part on which it is thrown, it exerciſes its Tyranny. If there be a Laxity in any of the Joints, it is thrown there, and ſo cauſes the Gout, and other different Diſeaſes according to the Nature of the Part on which it coms.

Having ſomwhat diſtinctly given an account of all thoſe things which either cauſe the Gout at the beginning, or accelerat a Fit in thoſe who have already received the morbific Impreſſion, and alſo of the general Diſ-

orders that precede a Fit, I ſhall now com to my Second Head, which is,

Secondly, That the Blood and Juices during the time of the Fit abound not with *Acid* Particles, but on the contrary with *Alkalious* ones.

I hate Tautologies, and therfore ſhall not here trouble you with any Experiments made upon Gouty Peoples Blood, but refer you to my *Hiſtory of Human Blood*, [a ſmall Specimen of which you have in my firſt Anſwer to Dr. *Tuthil*] where you will find ſeveral Experiments ranged in ſuch Order, and References made to the Subſtances obtained from the Blood of People in a ſtate of Health, with the great diſproportion between the quantity of Alkaly obtain'd from the one and the other, that it will raiſe your Admiration to ſee how we have grop'd in the dark for want of making Experiments. I have often found the quantity of Alkaly obtained from the Blood of People laboring under a Fit of the Gout, to excede that obtainable from People in a ſtate of Health, frequently as ſix to four, or therabouts, ſomtimes as five and a half to four, at other times as five to four; the Quantity of *Alkaly*, in which the Blood of thoſe laboring under a Fit of the Gout, excedes that of healthy People, differing as the Fit is more or leſs violent.

Beſides the neceſſary Concluſions to be made from reiterated Experiments, of which, as I ſaid

ſaid before, you will find many ranged in their proper places, which Experiments themſelves are as clear a demonſtration of the Truth of my Hypotheſis, as is given by the greateſt Mathematicians to prove any of their Propoſitions; and indeed we have no other way of arriving at Truth than by making Experiments; for a man ought not to draw a Concluſion from any one Experiment, but where Multitudes do exactly agree with little or no variation, one may without preſumtion draw a Concluſion from 'em, tho it may thwart the commonly received Opinions: I ſay, beſides the neceſſary Concluſions to be made from reiterated Experiments, of diſtilling or analizing by Fire the Blood of ſuch as labor under a Fit of the Gout, from the generating of the *chalky* Subſtance contained in the *Nodes* during that time, which Nodes and chalky Subſtance are at no other time produced than in the very time of a Fit; it plainly appears that the Blood and Juices do more abound with Alkalious Subſtances than at other times; that is, the Blood and Juices of one laboring under a Fit of the Gout do more abound with Alkalious Particles, than the Blood of the ſame or any other perſon who is in a ſtate of Health. What is this *cretaceous* Body but a collection of *homogene* Particles, Particles of one determinat Figure? I ſay, a collection of Particles of one determinat Figure, by reaſon the Fire will not totally deſtroy its Texture, which

were it a Body compoſed of Particles of different ſizes and figures (which are what we Chymiſts call *heterogene* ones) the Fire would deſtroy it; and that theſe Particles are what we call *Alkalin* ones, I ſuppoſe no one will diſpute, ſeeing they anſwer all the *Phænomena* that the moſt known Alkalies will do, *viz.* to cauſe an Ebullition or Effervescence with all the acid Spirits, ſuch as Spirit of *Niter*, *Sea-Salt*, *Vitriol*, *Vinegar*, &c. and when calcin'd will turn Syrup of Violets green, and ſomtimes (tho not always) do the ſame without Calcination. Now the Blood and Juices during the time of a Fit being too turgid with Alkalious Particles, and the Emunctories by which they ſhould be diſcharged being ſom way or other obſtructed, or made uncapable of throwing off theſe excrementitious Alkalious Particles, by that means they are thrown upon that Part which is moſt diſpoſed to receive them, and affect the Part with the moſt raging, intolerable ſort of Pain: and in time there is a coalition of the ſaid morbific, excrementitious Particles into the ſaid cretaceous Subſtance; and it is very plain, the ſaid Subſtance is nothing elſe but the morbific Matter indurated.

That the whole Maſs of Blood, and the reſt of the Juices do abound with too great a quantity of Alkaly during the Fit, and before the Fit coms on, not only the Generation or Coalition of this chalky, alkalious Subſtance, but the Quantity that is generated is ſufficient to evince.

vince. I have known almoſt two Drams taken from the middle Joint of the great To, which was all generated in that place, at leaſt during the time of a Fit, which was not a very long one; and that it was generated during that time is plain, the Part not being in the leaſt ſwelled before the Fit's Invaſion: and that this Subſtance, or the Particles of which it is compoſed, are ſeparated from the whole Maſs of Fluids, is paſt contradiction. According to the moſt nice Obſervation I could ever make, this Subſtance is lodged in the Glands immediatly adjoining to that Membrane which covers the Bones at the place of their joining together. Now if the whole fluid Matter contain'd in thoſe Glands were converted into that chalky Subſtance, the quantity could not be ſo great as what is frequently found upon ſom of the ſmall Joints, *viz.* on the Fingers and Toes: Therfore it muſt procede from theſe Parts being overmuch relaxed, by which means this great quantity of Alkaly is ſeparated from the whole Maſs, and caſt upon them. That it cannot procede from the Coagulation of the Juices in the Part only, is very plain, the Juices of the Part being heterogene Subſtances, or Subſtances compoſed of Particles of differing ſizes and figures; and whatever Subſtance is compoſed of ſuch different Particles, can never produce ſo ſimple a Body as this chalky Subſtance is: Wherfore this Body can be nothing elſe than a Coalition of ſimple

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Alkalin Particles ſeparated from the Blood and lodg'd upon the weaken'd, relax'd Part and from the Laxity of the Part it is that ſo great a quantity of theſe Particles is heap'd together, and ſo cauſes the Nodes. And as the Relaxation is greater or leſs, ſo the Nodes are, the Part being capable of diſtending more or leſs, and receiving a greater or leſs quantity of the ſaid Particles, according to the greatneſs of the Relaxation.

Tho I argue from the generation of theſe Nodes during a Fit of the Gout, and the exiſtence of them afterwards, that the Blood at that time is more turgid with Alkalious Particles than at other times; yet I would not have people imagin that I know ſo little of the Gout, as to ſay that no Part is affected with it, where during the Fit theſe chalky Nodes are not generated: For ſhould I do ſo, I ſhould betray my ſelf to be altogether ignorant of the Diſtemper of which I have bin ſo long treating. I do allow there are a great many people that have long and tedious Fits of this Diſtemper, who have never any of theſe Nodes; nay very frequently the Fits are more violent: For, *Salia non agunt niſi ſoluta*; Salts don't act, at leaſt not in ſuch a degree, unleſs they are diſſolved. And the Salts or Alkalin Bodies of which theſe Nodes are compoſed, being precipitated upon the Part in a dry form, do not cauſe ſo great a Vellication as if they were diſſolv'd in a ſlimy viſcous Subſtance: for tho the Stag-

ſtagnation is greater, yet the Vellication is not ſo great, and by conſequence the Pain not ſo violent; nay, when there are Nodes generated, the Fit uſually terminats in that Part; but in thoſe Fits where there is no Node generated, one Part is tyrannically handled for a conſiderable time, and then the morbific Matter is tranſlated from that Part to another: and ſo ſom are tormented for whole weeks and months together, eſpecially if there be a general Debility and Weakneſs of all the Parts: tho frequently the morbific Matter is diſcharged, and the Diſtemper gos off after it has crucified one Part only, eſpecially for the firſt five or ſix Fits; yet afterwards it is not ſo civil, but when one To, or ſom one Joint of either Hand or Foot has bin tormented for many days together, after a ſmall remiſſion, it will fetch a skip to ſom other Part on the contrary ſide. After this manner are poor Mortals handled, eſpecially thoſe who abound with the good things of this World, which occaſion'd one to ſay, *Si Salutem cupis, aut Pauper ſis oportet, aut ut Pauper vivas:* If thou deſireſt Health, be a poor Man, or live as a poor Man; for ſweet Meat muſt have ſour Sauce. The antient *Romans* to prove this, invented this Fiction: They feign'd two Goddeſſes, the one called *Volupia* the Goddeſs of Pleaſure, the other called *Angeronia*, the Goddeſs of Anguiſh and Pain, Names fitted to their Natures; and the Prieſts of *Angeronia* did ſerve at the Altar

Altar of *Volupia*, to ſignify that in this Li
Pleaſure and Sorrow are mix'd together ; an
the Image of *Angeronia* (Anguiſh and Pain
was always ſet upon the Altar of *Volupi*
(Pleaſure) to teach that Sorrow is a Compa
nion of Pleaſure, and Pleaſure of Sorrow.

I have ſaid before that Pain procedes fro
a contraction, and Pleaſure from a relaxatio
of the Nerves and nervous *Fibrillæ*. Now
confeſs it ſeems contradictory that I ſhou
lay it down as an almoſt indiſputable Tru
that the Parts being relax'd are the origin
cauſe of this Diſtemper, and that being ke
in a ſtate of Contraction they ſhould hind
the firſt invaſion of it, or its returns afte
wards ; when at the ſame time I allow th
the violent Pains attending people during
Fit procede from great Contractions ; and a
cording as the Contractions are greater or le
ſo are the Pains, the Contraction being cauſe
from acrid, corroſive, alkalious Particles ; an
as thoſe Particles abound in quantity or quali
ty, ſo are both Contractions and Pains great
er or leſs. There is a diſtinction to be made
between natural and preternatural Contracti
ons and Relaxations : the Parts being naturally
and regularly contracted, do enable Nature to
perform all its Operations aright, and ſo by
moderat relaxation do create Pleaſure ; but a
ny of the Parts being overmuch or overlong
relax'd, by that means cauſe a Load of excre
mentitious, alkalious Particles (And as I have
many

many times obſerv'd, ſo I ſtill continue to aſſert, that the Excrements of our Bodies are all Alkalious, ſuch as *Sweat*, or what is diſcharg'd by inſenſible Tranſpiration, *Tears*, *Earwax*, *Urin*, *Bile*, &c. But what is voided by Stool is not properly to be called the Excrement of our Bodies, that being rather the Excrement of our Food, and for the moſt part nothing but the groſs parts of what we eat, which are unfit for Nutrition, tho frequently upon ſom Indiſpoſitions of the Guts, and taking Purges, there are great diſcharges from the Blood and Juices that way: But what that Subſtance is, or of what particles it is compoſed, my ſqueamiſh Temper would never yet give me leave to try) which being lodg'd upon any part, and overmuch relax'd (unleſs the parts are ſo much relax'd as to cauſe the Palſy, and therby have loſt all manner of Senſation) do by vellicating and eroding the ſenſible *Fibrillæ*, put them into violent, dolorous Contractions, which continue till the vellicating Particles are ſom way diſcharged, or elſe by the interpoſition of ſom terreſtrious Subſtance their Angles are filled up, and ſo made uncapable of vellicating the Parts: of this kind is that cretaceous Body contain'd in the Nodes, there being generally no longer any pain after the cretaceous Subſtance is perfectly form'd.

While in theſe frail Bodies we are always ſubject to change, the greateſt Pleaſure bringing us to the very brink of pain and miſery, and

is what generally ſuccedes it; and by endu ring Pain, we know the better how to ſet value upon that which is truly and ſubſtan tially pleaſant.

Sleep, which is none of the leaſt of ou Pleaſures, is but an *Umbra* of Death; and th during the time of it, when the parts are re lax'd, the Matter for Nutrition is caſt upo them, yet not without a mixture of excre mentitious particles; which, when we a wake, if the parts are not able ſo to contra themſelves as to throw off the excrementitiou particles, as well as apply the nutritious one a Diſtemper muſt follow.

I being in company with a Stationer i *Fleetſtreet* not long ſince, he complain'd tha he was ſeldom free from the Gout in his Feet; and if at any time he applied Colwort Leaves (as he frequently did) to the bottoms o them, within a few hours after he could ſcrape from each of them near a ſpoonful of fine Pouder of Chalk, and from the diſcharge o this Alkalious Subſtance he found great relief. Pray from whence could this chalky Alka lious Subſtance com, or what ſhould it be but the Matter of his Diſtemper, the diſcharge of which was a great Relief to him? Now had his Diſtemper proceded from Acids, the bringing away of the ſaid chalky Alkalious Subſtance muſt, inſtead of being ſerviceable to him, have bin a great detriment and diſad vantage, by reaſon it would have mortified

the

the Matter of his Diſtemper: But the great quantity of Alkaly diſcharged is a plain Argument that there was no Acid to mortify, but that this very Alkaly it ſelf was the Matter of the Diſtemper, and therfore the diſcharge of it proved beneficial.

A great many Inſtances of this nature I have met with, as I queſtion not all other Phyſicians, who have bin any way converſant with ſuch as are ſubject to this Diſtemper, have don: And if we would give our ſelves the liberty of thinking, and making due Reflections, we cannot but attribute the Cauſe of this Diſtemper to an abundance of Alkalies in the Blood and Juices, or at leaſt in the parts affected.

CHAP. II.

HAving, I hope, given a ſomwhat clear Account of the Cauſe of this Diſtemper, I ſhall now procede to the Cure of it; in which I doubt not to acquit my ſelf better than my Predeceſſors have don, the Foundations upon which they built being ſandy, and ſo not like to laſt long, but liable to be overthrown by every Blaſt. Now my Foundation being ſubſtantial and firm, I doubt not the Superſtructure will be ſo likewiſe, the Experiments on which I have built my Hypothe-

ſis

ſis being ſo clear and demonſtrable, that I de
fy the World to contradict them.

I ſhall, *firſt*, begin with the *Dietetic* Cure.
Secondly, Shall endeavor to demonſtrat th
Inſufficiency of the Method of Cure both here
tofore, and at this time commonly practiſed b
the generality of Phyſicians in uſing *Alkalio*
Medicins and *Opium*.
Thirdly, I ſhall give an Account of the Me
thod of Cure by the means of Acids, wheri
I doubt not, to all unprejudiced perſons, t
make it appear that this Diſtemper deſerve
not to be rang'd among the number of incur
able ones: And then conclude all with two o
three very remarkable Caſes.

Firſt, for the *Dietetic* Cure, which conſiſt
in the due regulation of the ſix things calle
Non Naturales, which are; Firſt, *Air*: Se
condly, *Meat and Drink*: Thirdly, *Motio
and Reſt*: Fourthly, *Sleep and Watchfulneſs*
Fifthly, *A due excretion of the Excrements*
and *retention of the good and uſeful Juices*
Sixthly, *A due regulation of the Paſſions*.
Without a due obſervation and regulation o
the forementioned ſix things, all the Medi
cins in the World can avail but little, tho th
Advantage that accrues from the uſe of 'em
is more in preventing the return of the Di
ſtemper than in taking off the Symtoms when
people have a Fit upon them.

Firſt

First of all *Air*, without which we can ſcarce live a minute; and as Air in general dos contribute and is abſolutely neceſſary for our living at all, ſo good Air greatly contributes to our living well and in Health. It is ſaid by ſom body, that *plus Aere quam Cibo vivimus*, we live more by Air than Meat: and that Air dos aſſiſt in the nutrition of Animal Bodies, the famous Inſtance of *Vipers* ſo well known, is ſufficient to evince; for let a young Viper be put into a Glaſs-Receiver, and the Receiver be cover'd over with a Bladder that has holes prick'd in it, and the Viper will becom as large and fat as if he were in the open Fields. I have not made this Experiment my ſelf, but have received it from Perſons of that Worth and Honor who have don it, that I as much believe the Truth of it as if I had made the Experiment. If the Air in which we live and breathe has any communication with the Juices of our Bodies (which I believe no one doubts) then good Air muſt of conſequence greatly contribute towards preſerving the Texture of the Blood and Juices; and on the other hand, when the Air is contaminated and corrupted with heterogeneous Particles, it muſt deſtroy the Texture of the Blood and Juices. Therfore people who are troubled with the Gout ſhould endeavor to live in the moſt ſerene and clear Air that poſſibly they can, and avoid that which is thick and foggy, and full of extraneous particles;

for if ſuch Air will contaminat and deſtroy the Texture of the Blood and Juices of thoſe who are in a ſtate of Health, which 'tis plain it will, of conſequence it muſt in a more eminent manner do ſo to thoſe who have a Diſtemper already lurking in them, and their Blood and Juices out of order. What will contribute to the preſervation of Health in thoſe who enjoy it, will in ſom meaſure aſſiſt in the cure of Diſeaſes; and on the contrary, what will contribute to the deſtroying of Health, will alſo contribute to the bringing on of thoſe Diſeaſes which people have already lurking in their Bodies.

Secondly, *Meat* and *Drink*. People who are troubled with this Diſtemper ought to be very nice and careful both as to the Quantity and Quality of what they eat and drink. If they excede in Quantity, then they oppreſs Nature inſtead of relieving her. As to the Quality they ought to take great heed, and not eat or drink any thing that abounds with ſuch Particles as will either exaſperat a Fit when they labor under it, or bring on a Fit when they are free from it. Therfore as to Meat, let it be ſuch as is eaſy of Digeſtion and affords a good Juice, ſuch as *Veal*, *Lamb* and all ſorts of Fowl, whoſe Fleſh is white; and for the Sauce let there be always ſomwhat with it that is moderatly Acid. The moderat uſe of all acid Fruits is very convenient, but ſuch as are very luſcious and ſweet are to be avoid-

avoided. All ſorts of Salads in the Summer time are very good, and in the Winter the hot Salads, ſuch as *Salary*, &c. they generally agreing with moſt peoples Stomachs, and helping Digeſtion. As for Drink, all highly fermented Liquors abounding with vinous Spirits are very bad, and *Brandy* and other Cordial-Waters made of it are as much to be avoided as a mad Dog, or any thing that would certainly cauſe ones Ruin and Deſtruction: Therfore thoſe who drink Wine, would do well to drink the ſmalleſt and thinneſt they can procure, and even with that to mix a ſmall quantity of Water; and whatever they do, let them avoid Debauches. As for thoſe who drink Beer, let it be ſmall and very clear; and if at any time they drink that which is ſtrong, let it be clear and in moderat quantities. *Moyle* and *Pippin Cyders* are admirable Liquors for thoſe who are troubled with the Gout, but they are much better out of the Hogſhead than after they are long bottled. There is an old and a true Maxim, that every Man after he arrives at the Age of Thirty, is either a Fool or a Phyſician: which Maxim is only verified in reſpect to Peoples regulating themſelves in their Diet; it being impoſſible for any Phyſician to lay down a certain Rule of Diet for every body to follow, becauſe there are ſom things that very well agree with the generality of Mankind, yet to ſom are as bad as Poiſon. Therfore the beſt way is for every

man to make nice Obſervations himſelf, and uſe thoſe things he finds agree well with him, and avoid thoſe things he finds do him hurt. I have known *Flummery* that is very acid, taken morning and evening, to be of admirable uſe to Gouty People: As alſo the eating of *Cremor Tartari*, made into very fine Pouder, with their Meat, inſtead of common Salt, and is much more grateful than common Salt. Alſo the eating of Lemon and Sugar about an hour after dinner, is greatly helping Digeſtion, and deſtroys the Matter of this Diſtemper, and agrees with moſt peoples Stomachs. *Lemonade*, eſpecially in the Summer-time, is an admirable Drink for gouty People.

Thirdly, *Motion* and *Reſt*. Due Exercise and proper Seaſons of Reſt do as much contribute to the preſervation of Health as any thing whatever. But to give any particular Directions about them no man can, ſom Bodies requiring a great deal more Exerciſe than others. Yet in general, I think it abſolutely neceſſary for every one to uſe as much Exerciſe morning and evening as their Strength will bear; but after Dinner to reſt two or three hours without ſleeping, that being very pernicious at that time. The Exerciſe they uſe ſhould be ſuch as will make them perſpire well, but not ſo much as to make them ſweat; for in much ſweating there is a great expence of Spirits, as well as a diſcharge of the ſuperfluous and noxious Juices, by which means

the Body may ſuſtain a great deal of prejudice. There muſt be alſo great care taken not to expoſe the Body to the Air in a cold and moiſt Seaſon after any violent Exerciſe, which ſuddenly ſhuts the Pores, and cauſes a ſtagnation of the Juices.

Fourthly, *Sleep* and *Watchfulneſs*. As moderat Sleep is the moſt neceſſary thing in the World for us Mortals while in this State; ſo the over-much indulging our ſelves to it brings as many Inconveniences upon us as any thing whatever. The Night, as the moſt natural Seaſon, is appointed for us to ſleep; and according to the moſt general Obſervations, People are more refreſh'd with one hour's ſleep in the night, than with three or four in the day-time. Let People therfore who are ſubject to the Gout avoid ſitting up late at night, but go to bed in good ſeaſon, and riſe early in the morning; and be ſure to let their Suppers be well digeſted before they go to bed: And let them avoid Afternoons ſleep as they would a Serpent, or any other thing that would certainly do them miſchief. Over-much Sleep and over-much Watchfulneſs are equally pernicious, for both of them deſtroy the Tone and Springineſs of the Nerves, and therby hinder Nature from performing its Office in throwing off the excrementitious Particles.

Fifthly, A due *Excretion* of the Excrements, and *Retention* of the good and uſeful Juices.

If any uſual Evacuation be ſtopt, it muſt be promoted by Art. Coſtiveneſs is very pernicious, and on ſuch occaſions the Body muſt be kept open by gentle Lenitives; and the very beſt thing in the World upon ſuch occaſions is half an Ounce of *Cremor Tartar* in a Draught of Flummery or Water-gruel, firſt in the Morning. If Perſpiration be ſtop'd, it muſt be promoted by moderat Exerciſe, *&c.* If there be any preternatural diſcharge of any of the good and uſeful Juices, it muſt by all means be remedied. All theſe things may be don without mens expoſing themſelves to live *medicè*, and of conſequence *miſerè*, according to the common Acceptation; there being nothing that I inculcat but what is pleaſant and agreable: But were it not ſo, Health cannot be purchaſed at too dear a rate.

Sixthly, and laſtly, A due *Regulation* of the Paſſions.

The Paſſions of the Mind have a wonderful influence upon the Juices of the Body, and therfore People ought to be very nice in the regulation of them. Anger, and Fear, and Melancholy ought carefully to be avoided, and Cheerfulneſs of Temper to be kept up as much as poſſible. I know one man who is never heartily angry, but he is immediatly troubled with the Colic; and another, who after being in a Paſſion is troubled for two or three days with the moſt violent Headach imaginable. And I believe there is ſcarce any man who

who is not ſom way or other diſorder'd in his Body after a very great perturbation of Mind.

CHAP. III.

SEcondly, To demonſtrat the Inſufficiency of the Method of Cure both heretofore and at this time in common practiſed by the generality of Phyſicians.

For the right performance of which, I ſhall give you the whole Proceſs of a Method taken by a great Phyſician, Sir *J. G.* ſince dead, with a noble Lord. He uſed all the Alkalious Medicins, both internally and externally, that could be thought on, which inſtead of taking off his Diſtemper, exaſperated it, and by deſtroying the Texture of the Blood and Juices brought him into a Dropſy, from which he was not to be retriev'd. The Preſcriptions are exactly copied from the Originals, which are to be ſeen upon the File at Mr. *Nicolſon*'s the Apothecary in *Covent Garden*, who is of that Integrity and Honeſty, that I am ſure the Preſcriptions were faithfully made up. And if *Alkalies* would have don any thing in this caſe, I am ſure here are enough of 'em, and of all ſorts, even the moſt exalted; and among the reſt, there was given *Sal Tartari* volatiliz'd, or at leaſt he call'd it ſo, which he made Mr. *Nicolſon* purchaſe at a dear Rate.

April 8*th*, 1691.

℞ *Aq. Ceraſor. Nig. Flor. Tiliæ, ana dracm. ſex; Cinnamomi Hord. Citri totius, ana unc. ſem. Diacodii unc. unam; Laud. Liquid. Cydon. gut. xii. M. cap. horâ ſomni.*

℞ *Decocti Almari (fact. cum Sennâ, Rhabarb. ana dracm. unc. ſem. Salis Tart. ſcrup. duos; Quinquin. dracm. unam, unc. quatuor; Crem. Tartari dracm. ſem. Syr. Flor. Perſicor. Aq. Cinnamom. Hord. ana unc. ſem. M. cap. horâ ſeptimâ matutinâ ſuperdormiat.*

℞ *Aq. Lactis Alex. Ceraſor. Nig. ana unc. quatuor; Peoniæ Compoſ. Cinnam. Hord. Protheriacalis, ana un. unam; Perlar. pr. Oculor. Caneri pr. ana dracm. duas. Alkermes dracm. quinque; Syr. Flor. Tunicæ unc. unam. M. Cap. Cochlear. tria vel quatuor, prout neceſſitas poſtulabit.*

April 9*th*.

℞ *Aq. Regin. Hungar. unc. quinque; Tinct. Caſt. S. V. extract. Tinct. Croci S. V. extract. ana unc. tres; Tinct. Opii S. V. extract. unc. duas ſemis; Camphoræ dracm.*

dracm. quinque; Sacchari Saturni dracm. quatuor. M.

℞ *Emp. de Sapone unc. tres; Opii ſoluti & inſpiſſati dracm. duas ſem. Camphoræ dracm. duas; Sacchari Saturni dracm. tres. M. f. Emplaſt.*

℞ *Aq. Lactis Alex. dracm. ſex; Spir. Menthæ, Peon. Comp. ana unc. ſemis; Diacodii unc. unam; Laud. Liq. Lond. gut. xviii. M. cap. horâ ſomni.*

℞ *Ol. Mac. per Exp. unc. ſemis; Balſam. Lucatulli unc. unam; Balſam. de Gilead. dracm. tres; Ol. Stil. Lumb. terreſt. Stil. Abſynthii, Garriophillor. ana dracm. unam.*

M. cum quo inungetur Regio Ventriculi ad minimum bis in die, poſt injunctionem applicetur iſti Regioni Empl. de Theriacâ Venet.

℞ *Conchar. pr. Oculor. Cancri, ana gr.* xiii. *Salis Abſinth, ſcrup. ſemis; Cinnabar. nativi gr. octo. Cap. mane craſtino die cum Cochlear. Julap. prius præſcript. ſuperbibendo Cochlear. tria ejuſdem. Repetatur pul. præced. horâ ſeptimâ veſpert. addendo Laud. Opiati gr.* iii.

April

April 8*th*, 1691.

℞ *Aq. Ceraſor. Nig. Flor. Tiliæ, ana dracm. ſex; Cinnamomi Hord. Citri totius, ana unc. ſem. Diacodii unc. unam; Laud. Liquid. Cydon. gut. xii. M. cap. horâ ſomni.*

℞ *Decocti Almari (fact. cum Sennâ, Rhabarb. ana dracm. unc. ſem. Salis Tart. ſcrup. duos; Quinquin. dracm. unam, unc. quatuor; Crem. Tartari dracm. ſem. Syr. Flor. Perſicor. Aq. Cinnamom. Hord. ana unc. ſem. M. cap. horâ ſeptimâ matutinâ ſuperdormiat.*

℞ *Aq. Lactis Alex. Ceraſor. Nig. ana unc. quatuor; Peoniæ Compoſ. Cinnam. Hord. Protheriacalis, ana un. unam; Perlar. pr. Oculor. Caneri pr. ana dracm. duas Alkermes dracm. quinque; Syr. Flor. Tunicæ unc. unam. M. Cap. Cochlear. tria vel quatuor, prout neceſſitas poſtulabit.*

April 9*th*.

℞ *Aq. Regin. Hungar. unc. quinque; Tinct. Caſt. S. V. extract. Tinct. Croci S. V. extract. ana unc. tres; Tinct. Opii S. V. extract. unc. duas ſemis; Camphoræ dracm.*

dracm. quinque; Sacchari Saturni dracm. quatuor. M.

℞ *Emp. de Sapone unc. tres; Opii ſoluti & inſpiſſati dracm. duas ſem. Camphoræ dracm. duas; Sacchari Saturni dracm. tres. M. f. Emplaſt.*

℞ *Aq. Lactis Alex. dracm. ſex; Spir. Menthæ, Peon. Comp. ana unc. ſemis; Diacodii unc. unam; Laud. Liq. Lond. gut. xviii. M. cap. horâ ſomni.*

℞ *Ol. Mac. per Exp. unc. ſemis; Balſam. Lucatulli unc. unam; Balſam. de Gilead. dracm. tres; Ol. Stil. Lumb. terreſt. Stil. Abſynthii, Garriophillor. ana dracm. unam.*

M. cum quo inungetur Regio Ventriculi ad minimum bis in die, poſt injunctionem applicetur iſti Regioni Empl. de Theriacâ Venet.

℞ *Conchar. pr. Oculor. Cancri, ana gr. xiii. Salis Abſinth, ſcrup. ſemis; Cinnabar. nativi gr. octo. Cap. mane craſtino die cum Cochlear. Julap. prius præſcript. ſuperbibendo Cochlear. tria ejuſdem. Repetatur pul. præced. horâ ſeptimâ veſpert. addendo Laud. Opiati gr. iii.*

April 12*th*.

℞ *Gummi Ammon. puriſs. Maſtiches, Thuris, ana dracm. duas; Succini pr. Oculor. Cancri, Corallii Rub. ana dracm. unam; Cinnabaris nativi, Sacchari Saturni, ana dracm. tres; Milleped. pr. unc. ſemis; Caſtor. dracm. unam; Croci dracm. tres; Salis Volatilis ſuccini dracm. un. ſem. Viperar. dracm. duas; Camphoræ ſcrup. duos, cum q. ſ. Ammoniaci ſine Acido ſolut. & inſpiſſat. F. Pil. Sig.* The altering Pills.

℞ *Aq. Reg. Hung. unc. quatuor; Tinct. Caſtor. S. V. ext. Tinct. Croci S. V. ext. ana unc. duas; Tinct. Opii S. V. ext. unc. ſex; Sp. Lumbricor. unc. ſex; Camphoræ dracm. quinque; Sacchari Saturni unc. ſemis. M. Signetur,* The Mixture for external Application.

℞ *Empl. de Vigo 4to Mercurio, De Ammon. cum cicuta, ana unc. tres; Camphoræ dracm. quatuor; Sacchari Saturn. dracm. quinque; Opii ſolut. ſine acido & inſpiſſa. unc. ſemis. Sine ignis calore mixt. f. Magdaleon:* adde, *Caſtorei, Croci, ana unc. ſemis; Sp. Lumbricor. q. ſ. ad Malaxationem.*

April

April 15th.

℞ *Balſam. Lucatulli unc. duas; Ol. Macis per Expreſ. dracm. unam; Axung. Urſi, Anſeris, ana unc. ſemis; Balſ. de Gilead. dracm. ſex; Ol. Succini, Petrolei, ana unc. ſem. Ol. deſtillat. Cinnamom. dracm. ſex; Spir. Lumbricorum, Formicar. ana dracm. tres; Ol. deſtillati Buxi dracm. duas; Garriophillor. dracm. duas ſemis; Camphoræ dracm. ſex; Ol. Laurini, Hyperici, Rutæ, ana un. ſemis. M. f. Linimentum, pro externa applicat. part. affect.*

April 19th.

℞ *Spirit. Cochlear. unc. duas; Diaſcordii dracm. tres; Aq. ſperm. Ranar. unc. unam ſem. Regin. Hungar. unc. unam; Laud. Lig. gut. 40. M.*
Signetur, The Waſh for the Gums.

℞ *Coral. pr. Oſſis ſepiæ ſubt. pul. Lapis ſpongiæ, ana dracm. tres; Terræ Catechu. Sacchari Saturn. ana dracm. duas, cum Mellis Roſati q. ſ. f. Opiatum.*
Seg. The Opiat for the Gums.

April

April 20*th*.

℞ *Aq. Ceraſor. nig. unc. unam ſemis; Lact. Alexit. Sp. Menthæ, Diacodii, ana unc. unam; Aq. Gentian. comp. dracm. tres; Ocular. Cancri ſcrup. unum. Laud. liquid. gut.* 15. *M. Sig.* The quieting Potion.

April 22*d*.

℞ *Hædere Terreſt. Parietariæ, Malvæ, an. M. unum; Flor. Chamomillæ, Meliloti, Sambuci, ana p. unum, f. decoct. in q. ſ. Aq. font. & coletur hujus Colaturæ.* ℞ *unc. ſex. Vini emet. unc. duas; Diacathol. Mell. Mercurialis, ana unc. ſex; Ol. Laurin. unc. unam. M. f. Gliſt. detur quam primum.*

℞ *Diaſcordii dracm. unam; Oculor. Cancri ſcrup. unum; Salis volat. ſuccini, Bezoar. Mineral. ana gr.* XXV. *Laud. Opiat. gr. tria; Alkermes ſcrup. unum, cum ſyr. Papav. Alb. q. ſ. f. Opiatum, detur hora ſomni.*

April 25*th*.

℞ *Decoct. Amari (fact. cum Sennæ dracm. duab. Rabarb. dracm. una; Salis Tart. ſcrup. duob.) unc. quatuor; Syr. Flor. Perſicor.*

Perſicor. unc. unam; Aq. Cinnamomi unc. unam; Cremor. Tart. ſolub. dracm. unam. M. f. potio, cap. cras mane.

April 30*th.*

℞ *Ext. Rudii ſcrup. duos; Sal. Tart. gr. ſex. M. f. Pil. n. quinque, cap. horâ ſextâ aut ſeptimâ mane.*

℞ *Aq. Gentian. Comp. Abſynth. Comp. ana unc. tres; Sp. Lavend. Comp. Spirit. Menthæ, ana unc. duas; Tinct. Bezoard. unc. unam; Spirit. Caſtor. dracm. tres; Conf. Alkermes unc. ſemis; Syr. Flor. Tunicæ unc. unam; Laud. Liquid. dracm. tres. M. Signetur,* The Cordial.

May 29*th.*

℞ *Aq. Mirabilis unc. tres; Spirit. Menthæ unc. quatuor. M. pro Vehiculo laud. opiati. Pul. E. Chelis Cancror. dracm. ſemis.*

May 31*ſt.*

℞ *Theriacæ Venet. Diaſcordii, ana dracm. unam; Alkermes Comp. ſcrup. unum; Salis volat. ſuccini, Bezoard. Min. ana dracm. ſemis; Laud. Opiat. gr. quatuor. M. Cap. ante cubitum.*

June

June 1*st*.

Repetatur Opiatum præced.

June 4*th*.

℞ *Oculor. Cancri gr.* xvi. *Cinabaris Nativ. gr. novem*; *Pul. e Chelis Comp. gr. quin. decem*; *Laud. Opiati gr. tria. M. f. Pul. cap. ante horam somni.*

Here are Alkalies and Opiats with a wit neſs: but it is to be noted that moſt of the Preſcriptions were ſeveral times repeated, ye inſtead of being any way ſerviceable, exa perated the Symtoms, and not only fixt th morbific Matter upon the affected Parts, bu deſtroy'd the Texture of the Blood to ſuch degree, that a Dropſy followed, which prov ed of fatal conſequence.

The Medicins here preſcrib'd are thoſe tha are generally uſed by moſt Phyſicians; and ever any body receiv'd advantage by them, dare be burnt: and that ever Men ſhoul have ſuch dull Fancies, as not to vary from a Method that has never once ſtood them i any ſtead, looks very odd. And as for Alka lious Medicins in general, I dare be poſitive that they never yet cur'd any one Diſtemper but very frequently have done a great deal o miſchief; they being given in acute Diſtem pers, Nature her ſelf there throws off the Load,

Load, if ſhe be ſtrong and vigorous, in ſpite of them: But if poor Nature be weak, they add to the Load, and ſhe falls under it. And the only reaſon why we don't ſee Fevers and other acute Diſeaſes cur'd every day without waiting for a Criſis, is becauſe the Medicins generally given are of the very ſame nature with the morbific Matter, and of conſequence muſt prolong the Courſe of the Diſtemper. I have frequently obſerved in Epidemic Fevers, that Number for Number of the Sick, there have at leaſt two for one died of thoſe who have made uſe of Phyſicians, to thoſe whoſe Fortunes would not permit them ſo to do; and pray what ſhould be the reaſon of this, but that the Poor who took no Phyſic, or at leaſt no Alkalies to expel Malignity, as they call it, but drank either Water, ſour ſmall Beer, or ſom ſuch things, ſhould recover when the rich ones die; and that the one by their Alkalies, inſtead of expelling increaſed the Malignity, when the other by their mean but well-ſuted Remedies conquer'd their Diſtemper? In Chronical Diſtempers, ſuch as the Gout, *&c.* poor Mortals are let alone to languiſh under their Oppreſſion, and the Phyſician, like one of *Job*'s Comforters, gravely tells them, *Solvere nodoſam neſcit Medicina Podagram*; but yet after all the fruitleſs Attemts that have bin made, will be for putting the poor Wretch into a Courſe of Alkalies to correct thoſe luxuriant acid

acid Particles with which he would fain pe
ſuade his Patient that his Blood abounds (th
he never found any ſuch thing there) to th
pauling of his Stomach, and exaſperating h
Diſtemper: and if ever the poor Patient find
relief, it is from the Opium that is betwee
whiles given; and if from that he has a
little intermiſſion of his Pain, they are gen
rally ſo ungrateful as not to ſet the ſaddle upo
the right Horſe, to give the *Opium* its due, bu
preſently hug themſelves, and cry, God
mercy Alkalies, and ſo go on with a *Repeta*
Pul. E Chelis, &c. But moſt Gentlemen ha
now ſeen ſo much of the Fallacy of this M
thod, that they patiently endure a Fit of t
Gout, without ſo much as once ſending for
Phyſician; ſo that if we do not look about
and endeavor to regain our Reputation, w
may chance to be laid aſide in other Diſtempe
as well as the Gout. *Helmont* ſomwhere ſa
he that can't cure a Fever in four or ſix da
dos not deſerve the Name of a Phyſician
which if true, I am afraid Phyſicians are n
to be found in every Street. And I preſu
to ſay, That a Phyſician ſhews his skill mo
in curing one Chronical Diſtemper, than in
hundred Acute ones: for Nature would
that work her ſelf in the time we general
do it, without our help, and frequently,
the Tide runs, better without than wit
What I have ſaid is not to reproach the Ph
ſicians of our own Nation, who are many,

em as great Men as ever were of the Profeſſi-
on, and generally this City abounds with ſuch;
but my deſign is to undeceive young Phyſi-
cians, who have bin impoſed upon by Foren
Authors, and to excite them not to rely upon
men who have broached the Chimeras of their
own Brain without making Experiments, to
ry whether their Notions were true or falſe.
But to return to my buſineſs.

If the Blood's abounding with *Alkalious* Particles be the primary or fundamental Cauſe of the Gout, how can the giving of Alkalies be of any uſe? of no other uſe than the throwing a Load of dried Faggots upon a Houſe that is on fire would be to extinguiſh the Flames; and whoever ſhould attemt ſuch a thing, would be accounted little leſs than a Mad-man. And now it is in my mind, give me leave to inſert a Relation I had from Mr. *Hardly* a Glover of *Worceſter*, the moſt inge-
nious Man perhaps that ever was of his Trade; he being (which is very ſtrange for one of ſo mechanic and mean a Trade) a curious Phi-
loſopher, and a nice Obſerver of things: He tells me that in the making of their Leather, they firſt throw their Skins into a Pit filled with a ſtrong Alkalious *Lixivium*, which in a manner rots them; afterwards they make a ſtrong acid Solution, into which they throw their almoſt rotten Skins, which again redu-
ces them to their Texture, nay makes them firmer than they were at firſt: from whence

it may naturally be infer'd, that Alkalies break the Texture, and deſtroy the Parts of animal Suſtances; and that moderat Acids preſerve them, and reſtore them to their Tone and Texture, when before ſpoiled by Alkalies. It has bin an old and receiv'd Maxim, that *Similia Similibus gaudent, & Contraria Contrariis curantur.* If the Blood abounds with Alkalies before, and ſo cauſes a Diſtemper, the giving of Alkalious Medicins muſt increaſe the quantity of the morbific Matter, and ſo heighten the Diſtemper by exaſperating the Symtoms; unleſs 'tis pretended that one Alkaly will deſtroy another, which I am ſure is falſe, there being an amicable correſpondence betwee them all, the fixt Alkalies mixing with volatils, and all the volatil and fixt ones with one another, without the leaſt *luctus* or ſtrife: ſo it is plain that Alkalious Medicins will readily mix with the Alkaly they find in the Blood and Juices, and by inreaſing the quantity of the morbific Matter, as before ſaid, muſt exaſperat and increaſe the Diſtemper; wheras Acids which are contrary to Alkalies (there being a Conflict between them wherever they meet) given in due proportion, will leſſen the Matter of the Diſtemper, and in time totally extirpat it. But this is a hard ſaying, and difficult to be underſtood, eſpecially by thoſe who have not a mind to be inform'd.

I have in another place * given ſom more Reaſons for my diſſent to the uſe of Alkalies in the Cure of this Diſtemper, which for brevity ſake I ſhall not repeat; however I think thoſe Gentlemen who perſiſt in the uſe of Alkalious Medicins are very happy, *Quoniam Succeſſus eorum Sol videt; Errores autem Tellus opperiret:* Becauſe the Sun ſees their good Succeſſes, but their Errors are hid in the Ground, that is, in the Grave. If Nature be ſo ſtrong as to conquer the Diſtemper, the Phyſician has the Reputation of it; but if the Patient dies, he never tells any Tales: Yet had we the opportunity of converſing with our departed Friends in their ſeparat State, I am afraid they would tell us many diſmal Stories, by what means they were ſent packing into another World.

I have made a ſlight Reflection upon the exorbitant quantity of *Opium* preſcrib'd in the forementiond Caſe: yet I would not have people believe that I utterly diſallow the Uſe of *Opium* and the ſeveral Preparations of it in this Caſe; but on the contrary, I uſe it, not only in this, but in all other Diſtempers attended with Pain, and think it one of the greateſt Bleſſings that ever God Almighty beſtowed upon the Commonwealth of Phyſic. For all which I cannot ſay I ever once ſaw any one Diſtemper cur'd by the uſe of Opium a-

* *Eſſay concerning* Alkaly *and* Acid.

lone; but however it dos us ſo much ſervice as to allay the Orgaſm of the Spirits, and eaſes the Pain, by which means we gain time to give ſuch Medicins as are proper to eradicat the Diſtemper. I ſhall preſume to give an Inſtance of it in a very extraordinary Caſe, tho ſomwhat different from the Subject in hand. I was ſent for about ſix years ago to a perſon in an Iliac Paſſion, wherin the periſtaltic Motion of the Guts was totally inverted, the Patient vomiting up his Excrements, and ſtinking ſo abominably that no one could endure the Room where he lay. I gave him two or three very ſharp Cliſters, to draw the Matter downwards, but he preſently vomited them out at his Mouth. I gave him a Doſe or two of purging Pills, with ſom cordial Stomachic Julaps, which he vomited up again the very inſtant he took them. At laſt ſeeing him in the utmoſt Extremity, I gave him 10 grains of crude *Opium* made into Pills, which he retain'd in his Stomach, and began to grow doſy. After he had continued ſo about an hour, I gave him the following Pills.

℞ *Ext. Rudii ſcrup. duos; Ol. Garrioph. gut. decem. M. f. Maſſa, ex quâ formetur Pil. N°. ſex, ſtatim aſſumend.*

After theſe Pills had bin in his Stomach about an hour and half, I gave him the following Cliſter.

℞

℞ *Flor. Chamomil. M. duos; Baccar. Junip. unc. tres; Sem. Anniſi, Carrui, ana unc. unam; Rad. Hellebori nig. unc. ſemis; Colocynthydos dracm. duas; Aq. Font.* ℔ *duas; coquantur ad dimidiæ partis conſumpt. & coletur: Colaturæ adde Syr. e Rhamno Cathart. unc. duas, Ol. Anniſi gut. xxx. M. f. Enemà, ſtatim injiciend.*

After the Cliſter had bin injected about an hour, he had a large Stool, and in two or three hours he had five or ſix more; after which I ſupplied him with Cordials and Carminatives, and his Vomiting never return'd. By this Method I have ſeveral times ſince retrieved many from the very Jaws of Death. Now had I not given that very large quantity of *Opium*, my Purge and Cliſter would have avail'd nothing, by reaſon he would preſently have vomited 'em up; but the *Opium* allaying the *Orgaſm* of the Spirits, the Purge and Cliſter were capable of performing their Office, which otherwiſe they would not have don: and had I not given the Purge and Cliſter as ſoon as the Opium had made all quiet, they would have avail'd nothing, and the Opium alone would have ſtood me in no ſtead, as I have twice ſeen; for as ſoon as its Operation had bin over, the Vomiting would have return'd with as great violence as ever. So in the violent Fits of the Gout the giving of Opium

makes the Patient eaſy, and by that means proper Medicins have many times the better effect; but I cannot allow the uſe of Opium and Alkalies together, becauſe the Alkalies by the means of Opium are longer retain'd, and therby do the greater miſchief. But of what uſe the applying of Opium externally can be, I could never underſtand, unleſs to fix the morbific Matter on the Part affected, and ſo prolong the Diſtemper. The Learned and Ingenious Dr. *Jones* has promiſed us e're long a complete Hiſtory of *Opium*, and therfore I ſhall dwell no longer upon it.

Beſides the external Application of Opium, there was conſtantly applied to the affected Parts an Emplaſter of *Emp. de Sapone*, &c. which never did any ſervice: I have alſo known it uſed by forty other people without any effect at all, unleſs to exaſperat and increaſe the Pain. Now Soap is a Compoſition made of nothing elſe but a fix'd Alkaly and Oil. And the Parts affected with the Gout being turgid with Alkalious Subſtances, I cannot underſtand with what ſhew of Reaſon people can apply Alkalies in ſuch Caſes.

[And as a farther proof of the inſufficiency of Alkalies internally taken, I ſhall preſume to relate the following Caſe.

In *July* 97, I was ſent for to a Gentleman eminently known about this Town, who for many years had bin miſerably tormented with the Gout, and was becom a perfect Cripple, not able to walk, ſtand, or turn himſelf

in his Bed. Now he being a man very agreable in his Converſation, and of almoſt univerſal acquaintance, had an opportunity of relating the miſerableneſs of his Circumſtances to many Phyſicians, ſom of whom were of the firſt rank: they all, from the higheſt to the loweſt, generally agreed that the only occaſion of his being ſo ſadly tormented, proceded from the ſuperabundance of Acids in his Blood and Juices; and therfore adviſed him, as the only effectual way to preſerve himſelf from falling a Victim to his Diſtemper, to take Alkalious Medicins in large quantities, purſuant to which directions he conſtantly carried about him a large Box of Teſtaceous Pouders, and ſeldom failed to take an Ounce or two of them every day; in ſpite of which his Diſtemper continually gain'd ground of him, ſo as to make him a perfect Cripple as aforeſaid. At laſt meeting with the firſt Edition of this Tract, and carefully reading it, he was in part convinced that his Phyſicians had bin miſtaken, and that he was miſinform'd as to the true Cauſe of his Diſtemper; wherupon he ſent for me. As ſoon as I came into the Room to him, he threw his Box of Alkalious Pouder into the Fire, uſing the following Expreſſion: I took theſe Alkalious Pouders to be my Guardian Angels, but on the contrary I find by experience they have bin no leſs than tormenting Devils, and therefore for God's ſake afford me your aſſiſtance in order to re-

medy the Inconveniences I labor under on the ſcore of my Diſtemper and theſe damn'd Pouders. Upon which I put him into a Courſe of Acids that ſoon abated his Pains, from which he had ſcarce bin free for ſix months together; and by continuing the uſe of them, he has in ſom meaſure recovered the uſe of his Limbs. I could now give forty inſtances of People made miſerable by the internal and external uſe of Alkalies, who have bin retrieved from their Calamity by the internal and external uſe of Acids.

As for Topics, I have known many, who have applied Spirit of *Sal Armoniac*, &c. to the affected Parts, with the worſt ſucceſs imaginable.]

But ſom may ſay, how can Topics have any effect at all in this or any other caſe? How can there be any Communication between the Matter applied and the Matter of the Diſtemper, when the Skin at leaſt, if not ſom other Membranes, do interpoſe between the one and the other?

To which I anſwer: That the Skin abounds with Receptory as well as Excretory Pores, which I have frequently obſerv'd in the Skins of many Animals by my Optic Glaſſes; by means of which Receptory Pores there may be a comm unication between the Medicin applied outwardly and the Matter of the Diſtemper, ſo as the one may act upon the other. To prove which, it is well known there are

many things, that being applied to the Belly will cauſe as violent Purgations, as if a ſtrong Purge had bin taken at the Mouth. Alſo the ſtrange and ſudden effects of Medicins applied to Parts affected with the Gout, do demonſtrat that there is a Communication between the Medicin applied and the Matter of the Diſtemper, by means of the ſaid Receptory Pores: For I have more than once known people perfectly freed from the moſt intolerable Pain in half an hour, by the uſe of the Balſam hereafter mentioned.

CHAP. IV.

I Shall now procede to my own Method of Cure, which, tho it be very eaſy and plain, I thank God has very ſeldom fail'd me. And if I have bin called as ſoon as the firſt Symtoms of the Diſtemper appear'd, I have generally carried it off without ſuffering it to fix on any Part. As for inſtance; When my Patient complains of a Crudity and Rawneſs of his Stomach, with a windy ſort of Diſtenſion and Heavineſs of his Body, which are certain Arguments of an approaching Fit; if he be of a Sanguin Complexion, and a Plethoric Habit of Body, I firſt of all preſcribe Blood-letting, from twelve to twenty Ounces, according to the Patient's Strength: I then order

order the following Tincture to be taken nigh and morning for about three days.

℞ *Spec. Hieræ Picræ* ʒij. *vel* ʒi. *Tart. Vi triolati, Cremor Tartari, ana drac. una semis; Spirit. Vini rect. unc. sex. In funde clausè & calidè per horas duodecem, & de cant. Tinct clara, cap. Cochlear. unum primò man & horâ decubitus in haust. infusionis seq.*

℞ *Rad. Bardanæ unc. duas; Sassafra dracm. sex; Aq. Font.* ℔ *tres. Infun de clausè & calidè per horas duodecem, & cole tur; colatura reservetur ad usum.*

During the three days the Tincture is taking I order 'em to take one of the following Papers of Pouder, half an hour before dinner.

℞ *Cremor. Tartari dracm. tres; Tart. Vi triolat. dracm. unam semis; Saccha Rosati unc. semis. M. f. Pulvis in tre Chart. distribuend. cap. unam horâ dimidiâ ant Prandium, in haustulo Aq. Lactis.*

[If the Stomach be much paul'd, and the Patient not very feverish, I add to each Paper two or three drops of Oil of Cloves.]

After the three days wherin the Tincture is taken, I order the following Pouders to be taken for about a fortnight, four times a day at due Intervals.

℞ *Tart. Vitriolati unc. ſemis; Cremor. Tart. unc unam; Ol. Garriophillor. gut. xx. Sacchari Roſati unc. unam ſemis. M. f. Pul. in octo Chartulas diſtrib. ex quibus cap. unam horâ ſeptimâ manè, & horâ undecimâ, horâ quartâ poſtmeridianâ, & horâ decubitus, in hauſt. infuſionis ſequentis.*

[I here alſo obſerve, that if the Patient either already is, or be much inclined to be feveriſh, either totally to omit the Oil of Cloves, or to uſe it in ſmall quantities.]

℞ *Rad. Eringii ſiccat. unc. unam ſemis; Lig. Saſſafras unc. ſemis; Aq. Font. ℔ tres. Infunde clausè & calidè per horas ſex, & coletur; colatura reſervetur ad uſum.*

In the firſt Draught of Beer, Ale or Wine they drink at dinner, let them take a Sweetmeat ſpoonful of the *Elixir Sulphuris* hereafter mentioned; [or elſe fifteen or twenty Drops of the following Elixir of Vitriol.

Elixir Vitrioli nr.

℞ *Garriophillor. Piperis nigri, ana uncias duas; Sp. Vini Rect. ℔ unam. Infunde clausè & calidè per dies ſeptem; poſtea adde Olei [Vitrioli opt. rect. unc. quatuor. Infunde iterum*

iterum per dies ſeptem; poſtea decantetur [Eliz. clara.]

After this Fortnight, if the forementioned Symtoms diſappear, and the Fit be put off, which for the moſt part it will, I order the following Medicins to be taken for about three weeks or a month, firſt in the morning and laſt at night.

℞ *Lapidis Hæmatitis unc. ſemis; Cremor Tart. unc. unam; Ol. Saſſafras gut. quadraginti. M. f. Pul. in octo chartulæ diſtrib. ex quibus cap. unam in Cochlear. Syr. Balſamici Tolut. ſuperbibendo uncias ſex vel octo Infuſionis ſequentis.*

℞ *Rad. Eringii ſiccator. unc. duas; Scorz. Bardanæ, Fraxini, ana unc. ſemis. Aq. Font. ℔ tres. Infunde clausè & calidè per horas octo, & coletur; colatura reſervetur ad uſum.*

If they are at any time thirſty, let them drink plentifully of *Lemmonade*, with a ſmall quantity of Wine in it. And ſince I have in other places, and ſhall hereafter have occaſion to preſcribe *Lemmonade*, leſt there ſhould be any who underſtand not how to make it, I ſhall here inſert it.

Take

Take of clear Spring-Water one quart; then pare off the outward thin Rine of two Lemmons, and put into it; afterwards ſqueeze in the Juice of the Lemmons, and then ſweeten it with about two Ounces of fine Sugar.

This is the moſt grateful Liquor in the World: but if it be too cold for any ones Stomach, it may be made a little warm with half a pint of Old Hock.

[Inſtead of the Lemmonade they may at any time when thirſty, drink a draught of Claret and Water well acidulated with dulcified Oil of *Vitriol* made by digeſtion.]

If the foremention'd Symtoms appear, and the Party be of a phlegmatic Conſtitution (tho very few ſuch are troubled with the Gout) I then alter my Method, and for the firſt week give 'em the following Tincture, by which I have don wonderful things in other Diſtempers beſides that of the Gout.

℞ *Gum. Guaiaci Pul. unc. duas; Succi Liquiritiæ Hiſpan. in tenuiſſim. Taleolas inciſi uncias quatuor; Sp. Vini Rect.* ℔ *unam. Infunde clausè & calidè per duos dies, & poſtea decantetur Tinctura clara, cap. Cochlear. unum primò manè & horâ decubitus in hauſt. Infuſ. ſequentis.*

℞

℞ *Rad. Ering. unc. unam; Sassafras dracm. sex; Vini Rhenani vet.* ℔ *unam; Aq. Font.* ℔ *unam semis. Infunde clauso & calidè per horas quatuor, & coletur; colatura reservetur ad usum.*

An hour before dinner I give 'em a Paper of the following Pouder in a draught of Milk Water.

℞ *Tart. Vitriolati dracm. duas; Cremor. Tartari unc. unam; Ol. Garriophillor. gut. 24. Sacchari rosati unc. unam. M. f. Pul. in sex Chartulas distribuend. cap. unam horâ unâ ante prandium in haustulo Aq. Lactis.*

For about a Fortnight longer I put them into a Course of *Lapis Hæmatitis*, &c. as follows.

℞ *Lapidis Hæmatitis unc. semis; Cremor. Tartari unc. unam; Ol. Sassafras gut. quadragint. M. f. Pulvis in octo Chartulas distribuend. ex quibus cap. unam primò manè & horâ decubitus in Cochlear. Syrupi Balsam. superbibendo circiter uncias sex Infusionis sequentis.*

℞ *Rad. Eringii siccat. unc. duas; Sem. Bardanæ, Fraxini, ana unc. semis; Vini Rhenani vet.* ℔ *unam; Aq. Font.* ℔ *unam*

unam ſemis. Infunde clausè & calidè per horas ſex, & coletur; colatura reſervetur ad uſum.

[And ſomtimes, inſtead of the forementioned Courſe with *Lapis Hæmatitis*, I order the following Steel Courſe.

℞ *Cardamomi, Cubeb. Galangæ, Nucis Moſcatæ, ana* ℥i. *ſem. Cardui dracm. tres; Flor. Centaurii pug. tres; Fol. Marrubii Albi, Scordii, ana pug. duos; Calibis cum Aceto præp. unc. duas; Vini albi* ℔ *duas. Infunde frigidè per horas* 48. *poſtea cap. Cochlearia ſex, primò manè & horâ ſextâ Veſperi; coletur tempore uſus.*]

While they are taking theſe things, it will be convenient in the firſt Draught of Beer, Ale, Wine, or Wine and Water they drink at or juſt before dinner, to take a Sweat-meat ſpoonful of *Elixir Sulphuris*, [or elſe fifteen or twenty drops of the *Elix. Vitrioli.*]

If they are at any time very thirſty, they may drink Lemmonade; and if what they eat dos not digeſt well, they may about an hour after dinner eat the Pulp of a Lemmon cut into ſlices, with ſom double-refin'd Sugar, it greatly helping Digeſtion, and ſtrengthning the Stomach. [But if thro Indigeſtion they are much troubled with Wind, I preſcribe the plentiful uſe of the digeſtive Pouder mention'd

in

in my Eſſay, which I ſhall here again inſert.

Pul. Digeſt. Nr.

℞ *Cardamomi, Cubebar. Galangæ, ana drac. unam; Cremoris Tartari dracm tres; Sacchari Roſati dracm. ſex. M. f. pul. digeſtivus in pixide reſervand. cap. quant. Apice linguæ lingi poteſt ſæpe in die, precipuè poſt prandium.*]

I have preſcribed *Lapis Hæmatitis*, which I have found in many Caſes to be a noble Medicin, and more eſpecially in this I am treating of; and ſince I have mentioned it, I ſhall preſume to tranſcribe what *Polemanus* in his Treatiſe *De Sulphure Philoſophorum*, ſays of it, the reading of which firſt induc'd me to try what it would do.

He thus begins. 'Paracelſus teaching us in 'what Subjects the *Primum Ens*, or firſt Mat-'ter of Gold is to be found, which is the true 'Sulphur of the Philoſophers, among other 'Subjects mentions *Lapis Hæmatitis*, in which 'he ſays it is principally and very plentiful, it 'being impregnated with the *Primum Ens*, 'or firſt Matter of Gold, in all its parts; from 'whence being reduc'd into impalpable Pou-'der, it performs wonderful things in Phyſic. 'To confirm the Truth of which, he ſays there 'was a poor *Scots-man* in the City of *Ham-'burgh*, who perform'd ſuch wonderful Cures,

'that

'that the whole City was aſtoniſh'd at it; at 'laſt by the Envy of ſom wicked men, the 'poor man was poiſon'd, and his Loſs was ſo 'generally lamented, that the Magiſtrats of-'fer'd a very great Sum of Mony to any one 'that would diſcover the Murderer. This '*Scots-man* (ſays *Polemanus)* uſed no other 'Remedy than *Lapis Hæmatitis* made into fine 'Pouder, and mix'd with Oil of Fennel Seeds, 'as he was inform'd by the Prince of *Anhalt*, 'to whom the *Scots-man* had diſcover'd this 'Secret.

He afterwards gos on: 'The Virtues of 'this *Hæmatitis* are ſo eſteem'd by the common 'people of many Provinces, that they uſe it as a '*Panacea* in all Diſeaſes. I went to a certain Fair 'from my Father-in-law's Houſe at *Regiomon-'tanum*, taking along with me a Country 'Servant; and going into a Merchant's Shop 'where they ſold Whetſtones, Fire-ſtones and '*Hæmatites*, my Servant humbly beſeech'd me 'to give him one of thoſe Red Stones (the 'Name of which he knew not, meaning the '*Hæmatitis*) for his Fairing. I ask'd him 'to what uſe he would put it? Sir, ſays he, 'if you did but know the Value of this Stone, 'you would highly eſteem it; for it is the only 'Medicin we uſe in all our Diſtempers, being 'made into Pouder, and mix'd with a little 'Vinegar. Being return'd to my Father-in-'law's, I inquired into the Truth of this mat-'ter, and my Father-in-law aſſur'd me, that

'not only the Poor of the Place where he liv'd,
'but for many Miles distance, made use of *He-*
'*matites* in all their Diseases.

'The Signature of *Hæmatitis* dos indicat its
'Golden Virtues, not as to its external Appear-
'ance, but after it has bin dissolv'd. If you
'make an *Aqua Regis*, by distilling Spirit of
'Niter from Sea-Salt (the common *Aqua Re-*
'*gis* made of *Aqua Fortis* and *Sal Armoniac*
'will dissolve little or nothing of it) and dis-
'solve in it som *Hæmatitis* made into fine Pouder,
'and in the same *Aqua Regis* dissolve som pure
'Gold; if you compare the two Solutions to-
'gether, you will find little or no difference
'only the Solution of the *Hæmatitis* in its
'sparkling Gold Color seems to outdo the o-
'ther. Do not admire, friendly Reader, that
'with *Paracelsus* I allow the *Primum Ens*, or
'first Matter of Gold to be contain'd in other
'Subjects besides that of Gold it self. And that
'they do contain the said *Primum Ens*, or Sul-
'phur of the Philosophers, their manifold Vir-
'tues witness. Thus far *Polemanus*, the Ex-
positor of *Helmont*.

I have hitherto but just entred into the
Porch, proposing a Method to stave off the
cruel Tyrant on the first notice of his appear-
ance: and *Principiis Obsta*, is what every pru-
dent man ought to observe; it's easier to keep
an Enemy out of a City, than to drive him
out after he has taken possession.

I have rarely known violent Purgers do any ſervice (tho frequently a great deal of miſchief) either in the firſt approaches of this Diſtemper, or after the morbific Matter has fix'd upon any part. But gentle Lenitives and proper Alteratives are things that will do us ſervice. What I have preſcrib'd has generally that effect, gently throwing off all the excrementitious Particles by the proper Emunctories, altering the ill habit of the Blood and Juices, and confirming the Tone and Texture of the Parts.

I ſhall now procede to the Cure of the Diſtemper it ſelf, the taming of this fierce and angry Lion, the expelling of the raging Tyrant, the cutting off this *Hydra*'s Heads.

The Indications of Cure during the time of a Fit are twofold.

Firſt; The eaſing and taking off the moſt intolerable Pain.

Secondly; The correcting and carrying off the morbific Matter.

Both which things the following Method will very rarely fail to effect.

When I com to a Patient who has a Fit of the Gout, let it be a regular or irregular one it matters not, the Indications of Cure, and the Matter cauſing the Diſtemper being the ſame; reſpect muſt be had to the Age and Conſtitution of the Patient, and his former way of living; and according as theſe vary,

in som respects the Prescriptions must be va-
ry'd. But my Design being to give a general
account of the cure of the Gout, I leave those
little Variations that are to be made to the
Judgment and Discretion of every Physician.

I first of all, if there are Indications that
require it, as generally there be, prescribe
Bloodletting from 12 to 20 Ounces, more or
less, as occasion requires. I afterwards order
the following Medicins to be taken once in
four hours; [the Doses of which are either to
be lessened or increased according to the
Strength and Constitution of the Patient: but
this ought always to be observed, that they
must be given in such quantities, as to occa-
sion two, three, or four Stools in twenty four
hours. Now the Strength and Constitution
of People being so various, it is impossible to
prescribe a determinat quantity for every bo-
dy in a general Treatise. But the generality
of Physicians having given *Cremor Tartari* and
Tartarum Vitriolatum in such inconsiderable
Doses, I have chosen to proportion my Doses of
them for the strongest Bodies, that I might ex-
cite my Brethren to a more liberal use of 'em.]

℞ *Cremor. Tartari unc. unam; Tartari*
Vitriolati dracm. duas; Ol. Garriophil.
lor. gut. viginti. M. f. Pulvis in qua-
tuor Chartulas distrib. ex quibus cap. unam quar-
tâ quâque horâ in Cochlear. syrup. Balsa. Tolutā-
ni, superbibendo uncias quatuor Infusionis se-
quentis.

℞ *Rad. Eringii ſiccat. unc. duas; Lig. Saſſafras dracm. ſex; Aq. Font.* ℔ *tres. Infunde clausè & calidè per horas ſex, & coletur; colaturæ libris duabus, adde Elix. Sulphuris dracmas tres. M.*

Let them drink for their conſtant Drink the following Julep.

℞ *Vini Rhenani veteris, Aq. Fontan. ana* ℔ *unam ſemis; Elix. Sulphuris unc. ſemis; Sacchari Albiſſimi unc. unam ſemis. M. f. Julap. cap. pro potu ordinario.*

For change ſake, by reaſon that People are ſubject to be tired with the conſtant uſe of any one thing, inſtead of the former Julep for their conſtant Drink they may drink either Lemmonade, or Barly-water acidulated with Oil of Sulphur, and ſweetned with double-refin'd Sugar; [or elſe Claret and Water, ſweetned with Sugar, and acidulated with dulcified Oil of *Vitriol:* and frequently I allow 'em to drink a Glaſs or two of Claret alone.]

To take off the Pain, I apply the following Balſam to the Part affected twice a day, to wit morning and evening, till the Pain abates or gos off. I order it to be uſed in the following manner: Let ſom of it be applied to the Part affected, and with a warm hand be rub'd in in for a quarter of an hour; then apply a

piece of ſoft brown paper, and upon tha Flannel Cloths three or four double. Afte uſing this two or three times, there will litt Heats and Bliſters ariſe on the Part, fro which for the moſt part is diſcharg'd a ver great quantity of acrid *Serum*. The Virtu of this Balſam are ſo great, eſpecially in thi Caſe, that it deſerves to be written in Lette of Gold, and yet the Preparation of it is mo ſimple and eaſy, as all good Medicins are.

℞ *Olei Olivarum uncias octo, Olei Vitrio optimè rectificati uncias duas; opti miſceantur in Vaſe vitreo, Collo aperto, & ſtat fiat Balſamum rubicundiſſimum.*

If the *Oleum Vitrioli* be not exactly we rectified and very ſtrong, they will not mi but if it be, they will immediatly be co verted into a Balſam as thick as Treacle, a after it has ſtood a month or ſix weeks, it w becom of the conſiſtence of *Lucatully*'s Balſa with a greyiſh Coat on the top. I have a ready communicated this to many people, a receiv'd Thanks for it from ſeveral parts *England*.

Beſides the forementionꝰd Balſam, the fo lowing *Lixivium* is an admirable thing; have known it do wonders ſomtimes: but am afraid it is not ſo much to be relied on the Balſam is, tho by the uſe of it alone I ha known Gouts of half a year's ſtanding cured.

℞ *Urinæ Vaccæ libras quatuor, bulliatur parum; tunc adde Salis Marini libras tres, & iterum bulliantur donec Sal dissolvitur; cum hoc Lixivio optimè foveantur partes affectæ, relinquendo in partes pannum laneum calidum ter duplicatum, in Lixivio madefacto & Liquore cum manibus fortiter expresso.*

Let this be repeated morning and evening till the Pain is abated and gon.

[For near these two years I have not at all used the *Lixivium*, but always relied either on the Balsam or one of the following Medicins: and to People whose Skins are very tender, I have chose rather to use one of the following Medicins than the Balsam; and in som Cases where the Pains have bin extreme, and the Tone of the Parts much spoiled, I have made use of both, first the Fomentation, and then the Embrocation, applying afterwards a warm Flannel Cloth.

The Fomentation.

℞ *Flor. Sambuci, Chamomillæ, ana M. unum; Flor. Anthos, Lavendulæ, ana M. ſs. Aceti Vini Albi, vel Pomor. Sylvest.* ℔ *tres. Infunde clausè & calidè in vase terreo vitriato, per horas tres, & coletur; cum colaturâ foveantur partes affectæ bis in die, superponendo pannum laneum.*

The Embrocation.

℞ *Ol. Vitrioli Dul. per digeſt. fact. unc. unam; Sp. Vini Com. unc. octo. M. f. Mixtura, cum quâ embrocentur partes affectæ manè & ſerò, ſuperponendo pannum laneum.*]

Neither of theſe things will relax the Tone of the Parts, nor repel the morbific Matter; but will mortify and correct the one, and confirm the Tone and Texture of the other.

Till the Violence of the Pain is ſomwhat abated, I every night give an Opiat, either in a liquid or ſolid Form. As for inſtance.

℞ *Aq. Lactis Alex.* unc. *duas, Mirabilis dracm. tres; Syr. Papaveris Rhead. unc. ſemis; Laud. liquidi gut.* xx, xxx, *vel* xl. *Ol. Sulphuris per Campan. gut. aliquot ad acidum ſaporem, f. hauſt. horâ ſomni aſſumend. Vel,*

℞ *Theriacæ Androm. dracm.* ii. *Tart. Vitriolati dracm. ſemis; Laudani Opiati gr. duo. M. f. bolus hora ſomni aſſumend. Vel,*

℞ *Diacodii unc. unam, unc. unam ſemis, vel unc. duas; Olei Sulphuris per Campan. q. ſ. ad moderatam aciditatem, cap. hora decubitus.*

The

The Doſe of *Opiats* may be greater or leſs, according as people have bin accuſtom'd to take them; for the more people have bin uſed to take *Opiats*, the larger quantity they require.

I uſe *Opiats* on no other ſcore, than to gain time, to ſtupify and blunt the Senſes, till other Medicins can take place: Tho very frequently, nay for the moſt part I have no occaſion to uſe them at all. [And if people will but be perſwaded to omit the uſe of them, their Fits will always be the ſhorter; and when they are off, will leave them much more vigorous and ſtrong, than when *Opiats* are uſed. And therfore of late I have with all imaginable induſtry endeavored totally to avoid them.]

During this time I forbid the uſe of Milk, and all Milk Meats, they being very pernicious; but once a day I allow a moderat Meal of any Meat of very eaſy digeſtion, if their Stomachs crave it: otherwiſe order them to eat ſomtimes Watergruel, or Barlygruel, and ſomtimes Chicken or Veal Broth; and in every Porringer of either of the ſaid things, inſtead of common Salt, to put about a quarter of an ounce of *Cremor Tartar*, [or elſe acidulat it with Juice of Orange or Lemmon.]

When the Violence of the Diſtemper is in ſom meaſure abated, which in ſom people will be in a ſhort time, in others a longer, accord-

ing

ing as Nature is more or less debilitated, and the Matter of the Distemper more or less; I say, when the violence of the Distemper is abated, then the foregoing Method must be alter'd, and the following Medicins used.

℞ *Lapidis Hæmatitis unc. semis; Cremoris Tartari unc. unam; Ol. Sassafras gut. 40. M. f. Pul. in quatuor Chartulas distribuend. cap. unam primò manè & horâ decubitus, in Cochlear. Syrup. Balsam. superbibendo haust. Infusionis sequentis.*

℞ *Rad. Bardanæ siccat. unc. quatuor; Bucar. Junip. unc. tres; Sem. Bardanæ, Fraxini, ana dracm. tres; Lig. Sassafras unc. sem. Aq. Font. bullientis ℔ quinque. Infunde clausè & calidè per horas sex, & coletur: Colaturæ sing. libris duabus, adde Elix. Sulphuris dracm. duas. M.*

These things will cause gentle and easy Evacuations, correct the Luxuriant Alkalious Particles, and confirm the Tone of the Parts.

Instead of the foregoing Medicins, I sometimes give these which follow.

℞ *Cinabaris fact. com. optimè levigat. unc. semis; Gum. Guaiaci dracm. tres; Conf. Cynosbati unc. unam semis; Syr. Sambuci q. s. f. Elect. cap. quant. Nucis Moscatæ primò manè & horâ decubitus, superbibendo uncias sex vel octo Infusionis sequentis.*

℞

℞ *Rad. Bardanæ ſiccat. unc. quatuor; Baccar. Juniperi unc. tres; Bardanæ, Fraxini, ana unc. ſemis; Lig. Saſſafras dracm. ſex; Aq. Font. bul. libras quinque. Infunde clausè & calidè per horas ſex, & coletur; Colaturæ libris duabus adde Sp. Ligni Guaiaci optimè rectificati unc. ſemis. M.*

Theſe Medicins as well as the former, will cauſe plentiful and eaſy Evacuations, without weakning the Patient, or pauling the Appetit; and tho ſomtimes they work briskly, yet at the ſame time the Patient will gather ſtrength. Now according to the beſt of my Obſervations, all that is requir'd in the Cure of a Chronical Diſtemper, is to cauſe plentiful Evacuations, without weakning the Patient; which intention the foreſaid Medicins will ſeldom or never fail to anſwer: and I do not queſtion, but whoever ſhall think fit to try them, will find I ſay no more than truth.

If the Medicins given at the firſt beginning of a Fit do at any time make people go to ſtool too often, I then order them to drink freely of an Infuſion of Oak Bark, which greatly confirms the Tone of Animal Subſtances.

℞ *Cort. Querci ſiccat. & contuſ. unc. quatuor; Aq. Font. Tep. libras tres. Infunde per noctem, & coletur.*

Upon

Upon the going off of this Diſtemper, in people of a Cachectic habit of Body, a Courſe of *Calibeats* is very proper, and rarely fails doing good ſervice; but before we begin with Calibeats, the Pains muſt be quite off. The Calibeat Courſe I generally preſcribe, is as follows. But in all general Courſes reſpect muſt be had to particular Conſtitutions; and according as they vary, ſo muſt our Preſcriptions. But ſince it is impoſſible to adapt every thing to the many various Conſtitutions of men, that muſt be left to the Judgment and Experience of the Phyſician who is upon the ſpot; but generally ſpeaking the following Courſe dos very well agree with moſt people.

℞ *Calibis cum Tart. præp. unc. ſemis; Caſtorei de Ruſſiâ, Salis Succini, ana ſcrup. duos; Nucis Moſcatæ, Cardamomi, ana dracm. unam; Conſer. Salviæ unc. duas; Syrup. Garrioph. q. ſ. f. Elect. cap. quant. Nucis Moſcatæ, primò manè & horâ quartâ pomeridianâ, ſuperbibendo hauſt. Infuſionis ſequentis.*

℞ *Cardamomi, Cubebarum, ana drac. duas; Cort. extern. Aurantior. drac. tres; Gentianæ dracm. unam; Flor. Centaurii pug. duos; Vini Rhenani veteris libras tres. Infunde clauſè & calidè per horas ſex, & coletur; Colatura reſervetur ad uſum.*

Theſe

Theſe Medicins muſt be taken for at leaſt a month, or longer, as there may be occaſion; but, as before obſerv'd, muſt not be taken till the Pains are quite off.

Inſtead of the foregoing Steel Courſe, eſpecially to Women, I give that which follows, which opens their Obſtructions, and reduces their Bodies to a good habit.

℞ *Calibis Nr. cum Sale Armoniaco præp. unc. ſemis; Myrrhæ Elect. dracm. tres; Ol. Nucis Moſcatæ gut. xx. Extract. Gentianæ q. ſ. f. Maſſa; ex qua formentur Pil. magnitudinis Piſæ minoris, cap. N°. quatuor primò manè & horâ quartâ pomeridianâ, ſuperbibendo hauſt. Infuſionis ſequentis.*

℞ *Fol. Perſicariæ ſiccat. M. duos; Flor. Centauriæ P. duos; Cort. extern. Aurant. dracmas duas; Rad. Gentianæ drac. duas; Aq. Font. bullientis libras quatuor. Infunde clausè & calidè per horas quatuor, & coletur; Colatura reſervetur ad uſum.*

During the time that people are in either of the forementionʼd Steel Courſes, it will be convenient they take a ſmall Sweet-meat Spoonful of the *Elixir Sulphuris* [or elſe fifteen or twenty Drops of the *Elixir Vitrioli*] in the firſt Draught either at, or juſt before Dinner; and that they uſe ſuch moderat Exerciſe as will warm

warm them, but not make 'em ſweat. But of all Exerciſes, riding on Horſeback is the very beſt, it putting the whole Body into motion without ſpending the Spirits. [Note, that when Peeople are in a ſteel Courſe, if they find the leaſt return of their Pains, they muſt immediatly leave it off, and have recourſe to the *Cremor Tartari*, aud *Tartarum Vitriolatum*, &c. and when the Pains are gon, then to the Steel again.]

To ſom people eſpecially, if ſubject to Coughs, I preſcribe for at leaſt a Month, a Spoonful of the forementioned Tincture, made with *Gum Guaiaci* and Spaniſh Juice of Liquoriſh, to be taken firſt in the morning, and laſt at night in a Draught of the following Infuſion, after the Diſtemper is perfectly gon off.

℞ *Rad. Eringii ſiccat. unc. duas; Enulæ Campan. unc. unam; Balſ. de Tolu drac. duas; Vini albi* ℔ *tres. Infunde clausè & calidè per horas ſex, & coletur; Colatura reſervetur ad uſum.*

The Cure of Diſeaſes depends upon Obſervation; and every Phyſician who expects ſucceſs in his Practice, muſt nicely conſider his Patient's Conſtitution, and give thoſe Medicins that are moſt ſutable to it. That Medicin which will cure the ſame Diſeaſe in one Conſtitution, may not do it in another. Upon

on which ſcore I have bin obliged to vary my Preſcriptions; not but that the general Baſis of 'em all is the ſame, they being all Acids, but of different kinds, ſuted to the different Palats and Stomachs of my Patients: and there is not any one Part has a nicer ſenſation than the Stomach, as every days Obſervation makes appear. The Doſes of the Medicins preſcrib'd muſt be either leſſen'd or augmented as there is occaſion.

All people are not to expect a Cure in the ſame inſtant: I have known ſeveral times, that once application of the Balſam, without any internal Medicin at all, has perfectly taken off a violent Fit; when at other times, Fits that have not appeared to be near ſo violent, have bin a fortnight or three weeks before the Pain has quite gon, tho there has bin a conſtant and regular uſe both of external and internal Medicins. But tho the external Medicins will, without repelling, ſomtimes take off a Fit, without the uſe of any internal ones at all, yet I dare adviſe no one to rely upon them, but at the ſame time to uſe internal Medicins to ſtrike at the Root of the Diſtemper; and after the Pain is quite gon, to proſecute the foregoing Directions.

This is all I think convenient to ſay upon this Subject at this time; and from what I have ſaid, I believe I have given as clear hints, nay much clearer than ever were yet given con-

concerning the Cure of this troubleſom Diſtemper, which has hitherto bin ſo vainly attempted.

The Medicins I have preſcrib'd are but very few, and many of 'em very well known but I am almoſt poſitive were never before preſcrib'd in the manner I have don. There is nothing that will in the leaſt put any force upon Nature, and therfore none need be afraid of trying the Efficacy of my new Method. Had I preſcribed much and violent Purgings, Vomits, Bloodletting, and ſuch Courſes, wherein there was any great hazard and danger, people would have all the reaſon in the World to be cautious and fearful: But there is no ſuch thing, there being no one Medicin that has not a tendency to confirm and ſtrengthen the Tone of the Stomach, and of all the parts of the Body, to create an Appetit, and to excite Nature to throw off any load of exrementitious Matter that may chance to be lodged on any Part.

[I have bin as faithful in my relations as poſſible; and the Directions I give are ſuch as I have found ſucceſsful. And I thank God the firſt Edition of this Book has bin uſeful to many honeſt diſtreſſed Gentlemen; and I doubt not but this will have the ſame effect.]

CHAP.

CHAP. V.

FOR a farther clearing of the Truth of my Hypotheſis, I ſhall inſert two or three Caſes, and with them ſhall conclude this Treatiſe, which is already ſwel'd to too great a Bulk.

Caſe the Firſt.

A Perſon who for fourteen or fifteen years had bin moſt miſerably afflicted with the Stone in the Kidneys, and a general ill Habit of Body, was on the 4*th* of *July* 96, ſeiz'd with the Gout in the Wriſt of his right hand, preſently afterwards in the Inſtep of his left Foot, then in the Inſtep and Toes of his right foot. When he ſent for me, being the 6*th*, he was in the moſt intolerable Pain and Miſery in which it was poſſible for a poor Creature to be, and ſupport himſelf under it. I ordered him to drink Lemmonade for his conſtant Drink, and to take the following Pouders once in four hours in a draught of Watergruel.

℞ *Tart. Vitriolati dracm. tres; Cremor. Tartari unc. unam; Sacchari Alb. unc. unam. M.f. Pul. in quatuor chartulas diſtrib.*

And to apply the Balsam before mention'd to each affected Part night and morning, rubbing it in with a warm Hand; then to apply a piece of thick white Paper, and upon that Flannel Cloths two or three double. The 7*th* it lodg'd it self in the right Knee, and in both his Hips: his Pains were most intolerable, and he so fixt to his Bed, that he could not stir or move Hand or Foot, or suffer the Clothes to touch him. At the same time he had a violent Fever, which seiz'd him at the beginning of his Illness; which was greatly increased by the violence of his Pain, his Tongue being extremely black and rough. I order'd the Balsam to be applied again to all the affected Parts, and likewise ordered him to take a small Sweatmeat Spoonful of the following Elixir (which is the *Elixir Sulphuris* so often mention'd before) in a Glass of White-wine when ever he was fainty, or complain'd of a sickness in his Stomach.

Elixir Sulphuris.

℞ *Olei Sulphuris per Campan. unc. duas Spirit. Vini opt. rect.* ℔ *unam; Sacchari Cand. Alb. unc. duas; Garriophillorum, Macis ana dracm. sex. M. & digerantur in Matrasso optimè clauso, in leni calore Arenæ, per dies decem; tunc decantetur Tinctura clara, quæ conservetur ad usum in Phiola optime clausa.*

By the way, this is as noble a Medicin in moſt feveriſh Diſtempers, and as good a Stomachic as moſt in the World. I have ſeveral times don wonders with it alone.

The 8*th* he continued in the ſame ſtate, but his Pains ſomwhat abated; ſo I order'd the repetition of his former Medicins.

The 9*th* he was ſeiz'd with a violent Looſneſs, but his Pains much abated. I repeated his former Medicins, only added to each Doſe of Pouder four drops of Oil of Cloves, and inſtead of Watergruel, to take it in a Spoonful of Balſamic Syrup, and drink after each Paper a draught of the following Infuſion.

℞ *Rad. Eringii ſiccat. unc. duas; Lig. Saſſafras drac. ſex; Aq. Font.* ℔ *tres. Infunde clausè & calidè per horas tres, & coletur; Colaturæ libris duabus adde Elix. Sulphuris drac. duas, Syrup. Balſam. unc. duas. M.*

The 10*th* his Pains had almoſt left him, and his Fever gon, but his Looſneſs continued, to which I did not ſee any cauſe to give a check at that time; ſo I repeated his Medicins as before.

The 11*th* his Pains were quite gon out of his Joints, but he had a very great deal of Pain in the bottom of his Back, and his Looſneſs continued. I then order'd him to leave off uſing the Balſam, not thinking fit to have it

applied to his Back (tho I have oftentimes applied it to that part with good ſucceſs) ſuppoſing his Pain there might procede from his Looſneſs; but I order'd the repeating of the other Medicins.

The 12*th* his Looſneſs continued, but no returns of his Pains; and his Appetit, which before was loſt, came to him. I order'd him to continue the uſe of his Pouders, and to take the Elixir as oft as he was fainty; and tho by reaſon of his Looſneſs he was ſomwhat fainty, yet I durſt not put a ſudden ſtop to it, for fear of the return of his Pains, but to check it by degrees, I order'd him to take the following Mixture laſt at night, and to drink a Draught of the Infuſion two or three times a day.

℞ *Diaſcordii dracm. duas; Elix. Sulphuri dracm. ſemis; Vini albi uncias tres. M. f. Mixtura horâ ſomni aſſumend.*

℞ *Rad. Eringii ſiccat. unc. duas; Cort. quercus ſiccat. unc. duas; Aq. Font. lib. tres. Infunde calidè per horas ſex, & coletur. Colatura reſervetur ad uſum.*

The 13*th*, 14*th*, 15*th*, 16*th*, and 17*th*, he continued to take the Pouders and Elixir; the Mixture at night, and the Reſtringent Infuſion. His Looſneſs gradually went off; and as that abated, ſo did the Pains in his Back. He eat with a good Appetit, and gather'd ſtrength

ſtrength: his conſtant Drink all this time, when thirſty, was either Lemmonade, or Barly water acidulated with Oil of Sulphur.

The 19*th*, inſtead of his former Pouders, I gave him the following ones with the Infuſion: I order'd the leaving off all other Medicins, except the *Elixir Sulphuris* before dinner, or if at any time he was fainty.

℞ *Lapidis Hæmatitis unc. ſemis; Cremor. Tart. unc. unam; Ol. Saſſafras gut.* 40. *M. f. Pul. in quatuor chartulas diſtrib. cap. unam primò manè & horâ ſeptimâ veſperi, in Cochlear. Syrup. Balſam. ſuperbibendo hauſt. Infuſionis ſequentis.*

℞ *Rad. Bardanæ Sic. unc. quatuor; Baccar. Juniperi unc. tres; Sem. Bardanæ, Fraxini, ana dracm. tres; Lig. Saſſafras drac. ſex; Aq. Font. bul.* ℔ *quinque. Infunde clausè & calidè per horas ſex, & coletur; Colaturæ ſing.* ℔ *duabus, adde Syrup. Balſam. unc. duas, Elix. Sulphuris dracm. duas. M.*

Theſe things he continued to take for a month, with the deſired ſucceſs.

This was the moſt dreadful Fit of the Gout I ever ſaw, and was taken off in as little time; and had not the Medicins well ſuted with the Diſtemper, to have abated the violence of the raging Pain, I verily believe he had never got over it.

Caſe the Second.

About the beginning of *January* 95, I was ſent for to a Gentlewoman, who of a twelve month had ſcarce bin free from the Gout in ſom part or other; and at certain times had very great Effuſions of Blood from her Noſe, which were not to be ſtop'd but with the greateſt difficulty. She being ſomwhat free from Pain (tho very lame) at the time when I came to her, I order'd her to take the following Medicins, firſt in the morning, and laſt at night, to prevent the return of her Pain; and if at any time ſhe was ſenſible of the leaſt Pain in any part, immediatly to apply the Balſam, according to the former Directions.

℞ *Tart. Vitriolati unc. ſemis; Cremor. Tart. unc. unam; Sacchari Alb. dracm. ſex. M. f. Pul. in octo chartulas diſtribuend. ex quibus cap.* 1. *primò manè & horâ decubitus in hauſt. Infuſionis ſequentis.*

℞ *Ligni Saſſafras unc. unam; Aq. Font. bullientis* ℔ *duas. Infunde clausè & calidè per horam unam vel alteram, & coletur; Colatura reſervetur ad uſum.*

She has continued to take theſe things almoſt ever ſince, and has never had one Fit of her Diſtemper, nor a return of her Bleeding; ſhe has

has two or three times had a little Pain, which has bin preſently taken off by the uſe of the Balſam.

I could give a great many inſtances of this nature, wherin by the ſame Method I have ſtav'd off Fits from invading Perſons at the times they were wont to do: As alſo of the taking off the moſt violent Pains, when people have had a Fit upon them, in a very ſhort time. But in ſo doing, I ſhould ſwell this Piece to too great a bulk, when it is already larger by much than I at firſt deſign'd it; therfore I ſhall conclude all with this Premonition.

That Perſon may be ſaid to cure any Diſtemper, the greateſt number of whoſe Patients recover: The failure in ſom few Caſes is no argument of want of Skill. Every body knows that the *Cortex Peruvianus*, given at due ſeaſons, and in proper quantities, will cure Agues; yet there are ſom few Agues that will elude the efficacy of it, tho given with never ſo much caution and circumſpection: Yet for all that, the Cortex will ſtill be accounted (as there is all the reaſon it ſhould) the greateſt and the moſt certain Specific ever publicly known in the Cure of Agues, by reaſon there are very few Agues but what are to be cur'd by it. There are ſom people, who upon the taking of *Opium* are certain to lie awake the whole Night following: Yet its failing to make ſom few people ſleep, dos no

way hinder but that Phyſicians may preſcribe Opium, or ſom Preparation of it, to their Patients when they want reſt, by reaſon there are very few to whom it is given, that it will fail of making ſleep when they ſtand in need of it, tho oppreſt and tormented with the greateſt pain. The Method I have laid down for the Cure of the Gout may fail in ſom few perſons, eſpecially if not rightly and exactly follow'd: but for my own part I have not known it fail above two or three times; and thoſe failures I have great reaſon to believe, were rather to be imputed to the Irregularity and Perverſneſs of the Patients, than the Inſufficiency of the Medicins. Well, but ſuppoſe they ſhould fail in ſom few people, muſt they therfore be laid aſide? By the ſame reaſon the Cortex ſhould be laid aſide in Agues, and Opium for the making people ſleep, becauſe they ſomtimes fail of anſwering the end for which they were given. I don't queſtion, but with due caution and circumſpection the Method I have laid down will as certainly cure the Gout, as the *Cortex* an Ague, or *Opium* make people ſleep; which, becauſe they ſo rarely fail to anſwer thoſe Intentions, they will always be depended on.

I was going to put a *Finis* to all, but cannot do it before I have taken notice of the great Misfortunes I labor under. I have made it the buſineſs of my Life rightly to underſtand the

the nature of the Juices of Human Bodies, both in their natural and morbid ſtate, and by that means to be capable of doing ſomthing more than other people. Certainty has bin what I have aim'd at; and it will appear to every unprejudiced perſon by what I have ſaid in the Introduction to this Piece, that the foundation on which I have built my Practice, is ſolid and ſubſtantial. But my Misfortune has hitherto bin, That if any Patient of mine has chanced to die, or any one has not bin cur'd of a Chronical Diſtemper by almoſt merely looking upon them, immediatly an Outcry has bin rais'd, That I know nothing, or that I have killed my Patient. Nay, it's com to that paſs now, that if I do but chance to look upon a Patient, tho I preſcribe nothing for them, if they die, notwithſtanding they were expiring before I ſaw them, preſently there's a Noiſe that I have kill'd them. I expect the ſame Treatment in this caſe. If any one ſhall try my Methods in the Cure of the Gout, and be not preſently freed from their Pains (as if Chronical Diſtempers were to be cured with a Charm, by merely looking on them) it will immediatly be ſpread abroad, that I am in the wrong, tho I have given ſuch plain Demonſtration that the Foundation on which I build my Practice, is right: and one inſtance of my Method's failing, tho there have bin never ſo many Irregularities committed, ſhall do

do me more miſchief, than a hundred ſubſta
tial Cures will do me good. To this ſort
Treatment I have bin ſo long uſed, that
have great reaſon to fear the ſame again here
after. But let my Treatment be what it wi
I will never leave off proſecuting the Cauſe
Truth, and doing good in my Generation
the utmoſt of my power.

SOM

Medicinal Obſervations

Concerning the

Cure of Fevers, &c.

By the means of *Acids.*

Obſervation the Firſt.

MAY the Fourth, 96. I was ſent for to a Gentlewoman of great worth; who for ſom months had bin ſubject to a Hectic Fever, with a continual Faintneſs, and a depreſſion of her Spirits. About the 24*th* of *April* ſhe was taken with a violent inflammatory Fever, which had ſom ſmall remiſſions; ſhe was treated by another Phyſician with *Cortex Peruvianus* and *Bezoardics* in extravagant quantities, and brought juſt to Death's door by 'em. She had frequently very violent Convulſions; and when they went off, a continual languor: ſhe was fainty and weak

weak to the laſt extremity, even ſo weak that ſhe could not turn her ſelf in her Bed and tho ſhe had every night taken *Diacodium* largely, ſhe had not ſlept for eight or ten days and nights, not ſo much as one hour, her Spirits being put into ſuch a hurry and confuſion. Her Phyſician had given her over for dead and I was brought in only to look upon her and ſee her expire. But ſeeing her Relations all in Tears, bewailing the great. loſs they were like to have, I told 'em there were ſtill ſom ſparks of hope, and that plentiful quantities of Acids might go near to retrieve her: upon which they immediatly beg'd me to try what might be don: ſo I preſcribed her the following Medicins.

℞ *Tart. Vitriolati dracm. tres; Cremor Tart. unciam ſemis; Salis Succini dr. ſemis; Rad. Peoniæ dracm. unam; Caſtor. dracm. ſemis; Sacchari Alb. dracm. ſex. M. f. Pul. in ſex chartulas diſtrib. ex quibus cap. unam tertia quâque horâ in Cochlear. Julap. ſequentis, ſuperbibendo hauſt. ejuſdem.*

℞ *Aq. Pulegii, Rutæ, ana unc. ſex; Gas Sulphuris unc. quatuor*; Aq. Hiſter.*

* [Note that *Gas Sulphuris* is a Medicin made of very different degrees in Strength; therfore the quantities preſcribed muſt be greater or leſs, according as it is more leſs ſtrong: and the moſt certain way of preſcribing it is in ſuch a quantity as may make the Vehicle in which it is given moderatly ſharp.]

unc. quatuor; Caſtor. in Nod. incluſ. ſcrup. duos. M. f. Julap.

℞ *Sp. Lavendulæ, Gaſ. Sulphuris, ana uncias duas; Aq. Hiſter. uncias quatuor. M. f. Mixtura, cap. Cochlear. unum in Languoribus.*

The *Fifth* in the morning I viſited her, and found her Symtoms greatly abated; ſhe had had two or three ſtools, and ſlept about four hours. I order'd her to perſiſt in the uſe of her former Medicins.

The *Sixth*, her Convulſions had quite left her, her Fever greatly abated, and ſhe had ſlept tolerably well the precedent Night: I order'd her to perſiſt in the uſe of her Medicins, as before, and to drink plentifully of the following Julap when thirſty; and to eat Lemmons and Oranges in as plentiful a manner as ſhe pleaſed.

℞ *Aq. lactis Alexiter. libras duas; Cinnamomi fortis uncias duas; Syrup. Lujulæ unc. tres; Ol. Vitrioli Dul. q. ſ. ad moderatam aciditatem, cap. liberè & largos hauſtus.*

The *Seventh*, her Spirits were in a great meaſure com to her, and her Fever going off; but ſhe was ſomwhat coſtive, which created a diſorder in her Head: I therfore order'd the following Clyſter, with the repetition of her former Medicins.

℞

℞ *Decoct. com. pro Clysteribus uncias duod*
eem; Elect. Lenitivi unc. unam; Syru
Violar. unc. unam sem. Salis Com. pug. duos. M
f. Enema.

The Clyster work'd very briskly, and ther-fore that night I gave her the following Draught.

℞ *Aq. Lactis unc. duas, Mirabilis dracm.*
tres; Gas. Sulphuris dracm. duas; Laud.
liquid. gut. 20. Syr. Papaveris Rhœad. unc. sem.
M. f. haust. horâ somni assumend.

The *Eighth*, I found her greatly recover'd, and her Appetit began to com to her: I allowed her to eat any thing of easy digestion, and order'd the repetition of her Pouders and Julap, and Cephalic Mixture.

By the *Twelfth*, thro the foresaid Method her Fever was quite gon. I then prescrib'd the following Purge to be repeated once in two or three days.

℞ *Resinæ Jallap. gr. x. Crem. Tartari gr.*
xv. *Antimonii Diaphoret. gr.* xii. *Conf.*
Cynosbati q. s. f. bolus cap. primò manè cum regimine.

The Night following I order'd the following composing Draught.

℞

℞ *Aq. Lactis unc. duas, Mirab. unc. ſemis; Laud. Liquid. gut.* xx. *Ol. Sulphuris gut. vi. Syr. Papaveris Rhæad. unc. ſemis. M. f. hauſt. horâ ſomni aſſumend.*

She having for ſom time before this Ilneſs bin ſubject to Hiſterical Indiſpoſitions, I preſcrib'd the following Steel Courſe, to be continued for three weeks, or a month: But before ſhe enter'd upon it ſhe was perfectly well of her Fever, and went abroad.

℞ *Calibis cum Tart. præp. unc. ſem. Cardamomi, Cubebarum, ana dracm. unam; Salis Succini, Caſtorei, ana ſcrup. unum; Conſ. ſalviæ unc. unam ſem. Syr. Peoniæ q. ſ. f. Elect. cap. quant. nucis moſcatæ primò manè & horâ quintâ pomeridianâ, ſuperbibendo unc. quatuor Vini medicati ſequentis.*

℞ *Cardamomi, Cubebarum, Galangæ, ana dracm. duas; Gentianæ dracm. tres; Calibis cum Tart. præp. dracm. duas; Vini Rhenani veteris libras duas ſem. Infunde clausè & calidè per horas ſex, & coletur; Colatura reſervetur ad uſum.*

By the means of this Calibeat courſe ſhe was perfectly freed from her Hiſterical Indiſpoſition.

Obſer-

Obſervation the Second.

June the Sixteenth, I was ſent for to a young Gentleman of a very groſs habit of Body who was ſeiz'd with a violent Fever, and upon the firſt attacks of the Diſtemper was convulſive and delirous, with violent Vomitings. I firſt of all order'd large quantities of *Carduus* Poſſet-drink to bring off that load of viſcous Phlegm with which his Stomach was over-charg'd: about two or three hours after his Vomiting was over, I preſcrib'd Blood-letting to twelve or fourteen Ounces, and that he ſhould take the following Medicins.

℞ *Tart. Vitriolati dracm. unam; Cremor Tartari, Salis Prunellæ, ana dracm. tres; Sacchari Albi unc. unam. M. f. Pul. in ſex chartulas diſtrib. ex quibus cap. unam ſecundâ quâque horâ in Cochlear. Julap. ſequenti ſuperbibendo hauſt. ejuſdem.*

℞ *Aq. Lactis libram unam; Syrup. Lujul unc. unam; Ol. Vitrioli dul. q. ſ. ad moderatam aciditatem. M. f. Julapum.*

℞ *Aq. Hordei ℔ duas, Mirabilis uncias duas; Syr. de Rubo Idæo uncias tres; Ol. Sulphuris gut.* xxx. *M. f. Julap. cap. pro potu ordinario.*

The

The *Seventeenth* he continued much in the ſame ſtate, only his Convulſions abated, his Urin was crude and undigeſted, and he had two or three ſtools. I order'd the repetition of his former Medicins.

The *Eighteenth* his Convulſions were quite gon, but his Head and Face were mightily ſwel'd and inflam'd: His Vomitings had quite left him, but he continued looſe, to which I did not think fit to put a ſtop, by reaſon he was a Perſon of a very groſs Body. I ordered a large Veſicatory to be applied to his Neck, and that he ſhould perſiſt in the uſe of his former Medicins.

The *Nineteenth*, the ſwelling and inflammation of his Head and Face increaſed; he had a great difficulty in making Water, occaſioned by the application of the Veſicatory, and his Looſneſs ſtill continued. I preſcribed the following Medicins.

℞ *Sem. Quatuor. Frig. M. ana dracm. duas; Papaver. alb. unc. ſemis; Amygdal. dul. Decort. dracm. ſex; Aq. Hordei libras duas, f. Emulſio S. A. addendo Syr. Althæa unc. duas: cap. liberè & largos hauſtus.*

℞ *Cremor. Tartari, Salis Prunellæ, ana dracm. duas. Ol. Garriophillor. gut. octo; Sacchari Roſati unc. ſemis. M. f. Pul. in quatuor Chartulas diſtribuend. ex quibus cap. unam*

tertiâ quâque horâ, in cochleari Julap. ſequentù, ſuperbibendo hauſt. ejuſd.

℞ *Aq. Cinnamomi Hord. libram unam; Syr. Lujulæ unc. unam; Ol. Vitrioli dul. q. ſ. ad moderatam aciditatem. M. f. Julap.*

℞ *Aq. Cinnamomi, Mirabilis, ana unc. duas; Aq. totius Citri unc. quatuor; Ol. Sulphuris gut. decem; Syrup. Garrioph. unc. ſemis. M. f. Cardiacum cap. cochlear. quatuor vel quinque in languoribus.*

The *Twentieth*, his Head and Face were all over in one continued Bliſter; his Fever began to abate, his Looſneſs ſtopt, and his Urin tolerably well digeſted, but his Strangury continued. I order'd the repetition of his Emulſion, with the other Medicins.

The *Twenty firſt*, his Fever was in a manner totally gon, his Strangury quite left him, and the Urin he made of a very good color, with a ſettlement in the bottom; and from the Bliſters of his Head and Face were diſcharged large drops of an acrid Alkalious Liquor. I forgot to mention that the Serum of his Blood did turn a ſolution of Syrup of Violets from a blue into a very deep green Color, which was a plain indication that his Blood abounded with Alkalious Particles, and was the occaſion of the Febril Fermentation; to allay which I thought it abſolutely neceſſary

to

to preſcribe a plentiful quantity of proper Acids, and from the beginning I directed him to eat as many Oranges and Lemmons as he pleaſed. I order'd the repetition of the former Medicins.

The *Twenty ſecond*, his Fever was perfectly gon, and his Bliſters almoſt fallen, he began to have an Appetit; upon which I allow'd him to eat ſom boil'd Chicken or Whiting. I ordered him the following Medicins.

℞ *Crem. Tartari, Salis Prunellæ, ana dracm. tres; Rad. Petaſitidis ſiccat. & Pul. dracm. duas; Cochinillæ dracm. unam. M. f. Pul. in ſex chart. diſtrib. ex quibus cap. unam quartâ quâque horâ in cochlear. Julap. ſequentis, ſuperbibendo hauſt. ejuſdem.*

℞ *Aq. Lactis Alexiter. Vini Rub. Gal. ana* ℔ *unam; Syr. de Rubo Idæo unc. duas; Ol. Vitrioli dul. ſcrup. duos. M. f. Julap.*

By the *Twenty fourth* he was perfectly well, and went abroad. After he had recover'd his ſtrength, I order'd the following Purge to be repeated two or three times, at about three days diſtance.

℞ *Cremor. Tart. gr.* xii. *Antimon. Diaphoret. gr.* x. *Rezin. Jallap. gr.* viii. *Conſ. Cynosbati q. ſ. f. bolus, primò manè aſſumend. cum regimine.*

At night going to bed, after he had taken the Purge, I order'd the following quieting Draught.

℞ *Aq. Papaveris unc. duas, Mirabilis drac. tres; Ol. Sulphuris gut. octo; Laud. Liquidi gut.* xx. *Diacodii dracm. tres. M. f. hauſt.*

The neck of this Fever was perfectly broke in ſeven days, tho it was no leſs than what is commonly called Malignant. Wheras had he bin treated with Alkalies and Alexipharmics, it would have bin no leſs than fourteen days before his Fever would have any thing abated if he had not dropt by the way. By this Method of mine People are generally kept from being delirous, and all thoſe other dreadful Symtoms that attend ſuch as are treated with Alkalies and Alexipharmics.

Obſervation the Third.

July the Eighth, I was ſent for to a Woman who had lain three days and nights in an Apoplectic Fit, in which time Dr. *Richard R.* had order'd her to be let blood to the vaſt quantity of ſix Ounces, and had cauſed a Veſicatory of the largeneſs of a Crown-piece to be applied to her Neck. From neither of which had ſhe found any relief; neither indeed could it be expected, it being but mere trifling in ſo de-

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plorable a Diſtemper. She had not ſpoke nor ſtir'd either Hand or Foot the whole three days, but lay as one dead. I immediatly order'd thirty Ounces of Blood to be taken out of her Arm, and large Veſicatories to be applied to her Head, her Neck, and her Wriſts; and that they ſhould force down the following Medicins: but in a little time after the Bleeding, her Senſes began to com to her.

℞ *Tart. Vitriolati dracm. unam; Cremor. Tartari dracm. duas; Reſinæ Jallapæ ſcrup. unum. M. f. Pul. in quatuor chartulas diſtribuend. ex quibus cap. unam ſecundâ quâque horâ, donec incipit purgare.*

℞ *Sp. Lavendulæ unc. duas; Gaſ. Sulphuris unc. unam; Aq. Peoniæ Comp. unc. tres. M. f. Mixtura, cap. cochleare unum frequenter.*

The *Ninth* ſhe continu'd ſtupid and dozy, ſo I order'd thirty Ounces of Blood to be taken from the Jugular. Her Pouders had not wrought with her, and therfore I order'd the following Cliſter, and likewiſe a Sternutatory to be uſed often, and a repetition of her Cephalic Mixture. For her conſtant Drink I ordered a Tea made of Roſemary and Lavender Flowers, to be acidulated with dulcified Oil of Vitriol.

℞ *Flor. Roriſmarini, Lavendulæ, ana m*
unum; Cort. Winteriani unc. ſemiſ
Aq. Font. ℔ duas: coquantur ad dimidiæ partis
conſumtionem, & coletur; Colaturæ unc. xii
adde Vini Benedicti unc. unam, Syr. E ſpina
Cervinâ unc. unam ſemis. M. f. Enema ſtatim
injiciend.

℞ *Caſtorei opt. drac. ſem. Nucis Moſcat.*
dracm. unam; Fol. Aſſari dracm. ſemis
Nicotiani dracm. duas. M. f. Pul. ſternutato-
rius frequenter uſurpand.

The Clyſter wrought very well, and her Bliſters run plentifully, which greatly reliev'd her.

The *Tenth*, ſhe could turn her ſelf in her bed, and open her Eyes, and ſwallow very well, but could not ſpeak at all. So I or-der'd them to dip ſom toſted Bread in Spirit of Lavender, and that ſhe ſhould hold a piece of the ſaid Bread in her mouth, and take the following Medicins.

℞ *Tart. Vitriolati dracm. duas; Cremor*
Tart. unc. ſemis; Caſtorei, Salis ſuccini,
ana dracm. ſem. Ol. Nucis moſcat. gut. xx
M. f. Pul. in quatuor chartulas diſtribuend. ex
quibus cap. unam quartâ quâque horâ in cochlear
Julap. ſequentis, ſuperbibendo hauſt. ejuſdem.

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℞ *Aq. Pulegii uncias duodecem; Pconiæ Comp. Hiſter. ana unc. duas; Sp. Lavendulæ, Gaſ. Sulphuris, ana unc. unam ſem. Syr. Peoniæ unc. unam. M. f. Julap.*

The *Eleventh*, ſhe could ſpeak half words, but was ſomwhat ſtupid; ſo I order'd her to be let blood again in the Jugular to thirty Ounces, having found her to be greatly reliev'd after each of her former bleedings, and to perſiſt in the uſe of her former Medicins.

She was let blood no more, but continued to uſe the forementiоn'd Medicins; and by the eighteenth ſhe was able to ſpeak freely, and to walk about her room: So I preſcrib'd her the following Steel Courſe, and directed her to perſiſt in it for about three weeks or a month, which accordingly ſhe did, and ſhe continues perfectly well.

℞ *Calibis cum Tart. præp. unc. ſemis; Nucis moſcatæ, Cardamomi, ana dracm. duas; Caſtorei ſcrup. duos; Ol. Nucis moſcatæ gut. xxx. Conſ. Salviæ unc. unam ſem. Syr. Peoniæ q. ſ. f. Elect. cap. quant. Nucis Moſcatæ primò manè & horâ quartâ pomeridianâ, ſuperbibendo uncias quatuor Infuſionis ſequentis.*

℞ *Flor. Roriſmarini, Lavendulæ, ana M. un. Nucis moſcatæ, Cardamomi, ana*

drac. duas; Aq. Font. libras duas. Infunde clausè & calidè per horas quatuor, & coletur; Colaturæ adde Sp. Lavendulæ unc. quatuor. M.

Obſervation the Fourth.

June the twenty fourth, a Gentlewoman applied her ſelf to me for advice. She had a conſtant laſſitude and wearineſs upon her, a violent Cough and Shortneſs of Breath, and conſtant ſoreneſs and pain in her Breaſt, a taſte of Blood always in her Mouth, a Hectic Fever, and Cold, Colliquative Night-ſweats, with an almoſt total loſs of Appetit; all the true Signs of a radicated, confirm'd *Pthiſis* or Conſumtion. I preſcribed the following Medicins.

℞ *Tartari Vitriolati dracm. unc. ſem. Cremor. Tartari, Salis Prunellæ, ana dracm. duas; Sacchari Alb. dracm. ſex. M. f. Pul. in octo chartulas diſtrib. ex quibus cap. unam quartâ quâque horâ, in hauſt. Infuſionis ſequentis.*

℞ *Rad. Eringii unc. duas; Balſ. Tolutani dracm. unam: Aq. Font. lib. duas ſemis. Infunde clausè & calidè per horas ſex, & coletur; Colaturæ adde Syr. Balſam. unc. duas. M.*

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℞ *Gaſ. Sulphuris unc. duas; Ol. Cinnamomi, cum Sacch. alb. mixt. gut. quatuor, M. cap. cochlear. unum in omni difficultate reſpirationis.*

In about five or ſix days the bloody Taſte in her Mouth began to abate, as did alſo her Sweats.

July the Firſt I viſited her (ſhe being remote from the City, I could not viſit her above once a week) and finding her ſomwhat Hiſterical with a little Looſneſs, I preſcrib'd the following Medicins, and ordered her Pouders and Infuſion to be repeated.

℞ *Aq. Lactis Alex. unc. duas, Hiſter. drac. tres; Gaſ. Sulphuris dracm. duas; Ol. Cinnamomi gut. unam; Laud. Liquidi gut.* xx. *M. f. hauſt. horâ ſomni aſſumend.*

℞ *Aq. Lactis unc. octo, Hiſter. unc. quatuor, Cinnamomi Fort. unc. un. ſem. Gaſ. Sulphuris unc. unam; Syr. Balſam. unc. unam. M. f. Mixtura, cap. Cochlear. quatuor ſæpius in die durante languore.*

℞ *Gaſ. Sulphuris unc. quatuor; Ol. Cinnamomi, cum Sacch. alb. q. ſ. Mixt. gut. ſex. M. cap. cochlear. unum in omni hauſt. potus.*

Au-

Auguſt the firſt, her bloody Taſte and cold Sweats had quite left her, and the Soreneſs of her Breaſt was much abated, and her Appetit in a manner reſtor'd. But her Cough and Shortneſs of Breath continued, as alſo did her Hectic Fever; but theſe were much more favorable than at the beginning. I preſcribed the following Medicins.

Repetantur Pulveres & Infuſio.

℞ *Ol. Vitrioli dul. dracm. duas. Cap. gut. 40. in omni hauſtulo potus, & præcipue quando difficultatem reſpirandi habet.*

℞ *Opobalſami dracm. duas. Cap. gut. ſex ſing. noct. horâ decubitus in cochlear. Syrup. ſequentis.*

℞ *Syrup. Balſam. unc. quatuor, Ol. Sulphuris per campan. q. ſ. ad acid. ſaporem.*

Auguſt the *6th* her Cough and Shortneſs of Breath had quite left her, and all the other Symtoms in a manner abated; but ſhe was very coſtive, and had a propenſity to vomit; I therfore preſcribed as follows.

℞ *Sp. Hier. Picræ ſcrup. duos; Tart. Vitriolati dracm. unam; Aq. Epidem. unc. tres.*

tres. M. f. Mixtura, cap. cochlear. unum primò mane, & cochlear. ſem. horâ dimidiâ ante prandium, in hauſtulo Vini rubri.

Auguſt the 12*th*, ſhe was ſomwhat Hiſterical, but had no return of her former Indiſpoſitions; ſo I preſcribed the following Medicins.

℞ *Aq. Pulegii Ceraſor. nig. Hiſter. Rutæ, ana unc. quatuor; Elix. Vitrioli ſcrup. duos; Sacchari alb. unc. unam. M. f. Julap. cap. cochlear. ſex in languoribus.*

℞ *Laud. Lig. ſcrup. unum; cap. gut.* XXV. *horâ decubitus in hauſt. Julap. prætudentis.*

Auguſt the 22*d* ſhe finding her ſelf very well, return'd to her own Habitation in the Country, a great diſtance from *London:* ſo I preſcribed the following Medicins to be taken for three weeks or a month, to confirm her in her Health, and prevent the return of her Diſtemper.

℞ *Cremor. Tartari, Salis prunellæ, ana unc. unam; Tart. Vitriolati dracm. decem; Maſtiches unc. ſemis; Sacchari alb. unc. quatuor; Ol. Garriophil. dracm. ſemis. M. f. Pul. in pixide aſſervand. cap. quant. Mucroni cultri contineri poteſt, in hauſt. Infuſionis bis in die.*

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℞ *Elix. Vitrioli unc. ſemis; cap. gut. xv. frequenter in hauſt. Infuſionis.*

℞ *Opobalſami dracm. duas; cap. gut. ſex ſing. noct. horâ decubitus in cochlear. Syrup. Balſam. cum Ol. Sulph. acidulati.*

She has ſince bin in Town very well, and free from any of her former Indiſpoſitions.

Obſervation the Fifth.

October the 13*th*, I was ſent for to a young Gentleman who for ſom days had bin ill of a Peſtilential Fever, having black and purple Spots upon his Breaſt, and other parts; and about thirty hours before was taken with a violent bleeding at his Noſe, and in that ſpace had bled, by a modeſt computation, at leaſt twelve pounds. All ordinary means, both internal and external, had in vain bin uſed by a great and honeſt Phyſician, whoſe Advice had bin requir'd; but the Effuſion of Blood could no ways be ſtopt, ſo that both Phyſician and Relations had given him up for dead. But providentially a Relation of mine coming in, with a Solution of the *Vulnerary Pouder* that was formerly mine, ſoon ſtopt the Effuſion of Blood at his noſe, and withal gave 'em encouragement that if they would ſend for me, he might be ſo treated, as to have his Fe-

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ver taken off, and his Life preſerv'd. Accordingly I was ſent for; and tho the loſs of Blood had bin ſo great, yet his Fever was not in the leaſt abated, his Pulſe being violently high and quick, his Tongue as black as a Coal, and ſo rough, that one might almoſt grate a Nutmeg upon it, with a violent Orgaſm of his Spirits: both his bleeding, Spots, and even the Fever it ſelf proceeding from the Globules of the Blood being broken by too great a quantity of Alkalies, as I have more at large taken notice in my Eſſay of *Alkaly and Acid.* I preſcrib'd the following Medicins.

℞ *Crem. Tartari dracm. duas, Salis prunellæ dracm. duas, Tart. Vitriolati drac. unam, Sacchari roſati dracm. ſex. M. f. Pul. in quatuor chartulas diſtrib. ex quibus cap. unam ſecundâ quâque horâ in parvâ quantitate Julap. ſequentis, ſuperbibendo hauſt. ejuſd.*

℞ *Aq. Lactis Alexiter. Cinnamomi Hord. ana* ℔ *unam; Aceti diſtillati unc. duas; Syr. Lujulæ unc. tres; Ol. Vitrioli q. ſ. ad acidum ſaporem. M. f. Julap.*

℞ *Fol. Roſar. rub. m. ſex, Aceti acerrimi q. ſ. coquantur ad mollitiem, & applicetur inter duas pannas lineas, fronti & ſtomacho.*

℞

℞ *Aq. Mirabilis, Cinnamomi, ana unc. tres; Cinnamomi Hord. unc. quatuor; Ol. Vitrioli gut. 60. Syr. Lujulæ dracm. ſex. M. f. Cardiacum, cap. cochlear. ſex quando Spiritus languent.*

Within half an hour after he had taken each of the firſt three papers of Pouder, he vomited up great quantities of coagulated Blood, but the fourth ſtaid with him; and within three hours after he had two or three looſe ſtools, the greateſt part of which were Blood; after which he was ſomwhat compoſed, and ſlept three or four hours, and then ſeem'd to be much refreſh'd.

October the 14*th*, I ordered a Repetition of the former Medicins; only inſtead of the Cordial, I gave him that which follows; and being very thirſty, I order'd he ſhould have Lemmonade, with a little White-wine mixt with it, to drink in as plentiful a manner as he pleaſed.

℞ *Aq. Cinnamomi Hord. Cinnamomi Fort. ana unc. tres; Syr. Garrioph. dracm. ſex; Confect. Alkermes dracm. duas. M.*

The 15*th*, the violence of his Fever began in ſom meaſure to abate, but he had a very great depreſſion of his Spirits, being extremely

tremely fainty and weak. I order'd the following Pouders and Julap, with a repetition of his Cordial. And by reaſon he had not ſlept the foregoing night, I order'd the following compoſing *Hauſtus*, one half to be taken at eight a clock, the other half about Midnight, if he did not ſleep.

℞ *Tart. Vitriolati dracm. unam; Cremor. Tartari, Salis prunellæ, ana dracm. unam ſem. Ol. Cinnamomi gut. ſex, Garrioph. gut. ſex. M. f. Pul. in ſex chartulas diſtrib. ex quibus cap. unam ſecundâ vel tertiâ quâque horâ in cochlear. Syr. Balſam. ſuperbibendo hauſt. Julap. ſequentis.*

℞ *Aq. Cinnamomi Hord. libram unam ſemis, Mirab. unc. tres; Ol. Vitrioli dul. q. ſ. ad moderat. acid. addendo Syr. Lujulæ unc. duas. M. f. Julap.*

℞ *Aq. Cinnamomi Hord. unc. tres, Mirabilis dracm. ſex; Laud. Liquidi gut. 30. Ol. Vitrioli dul. gut. 10. Syr. Papaveris unc. ſemis. M.*

The 16*th* his Fever was more abated, and the Spots began to diſappear. But the blackneſs and roughneſs of his Tongue continued, and he was very coſtive; ſo I preſcrib'd the following Mixture to moiſten his Mouth, and the Cliſter to open his Body. The Clyſter wrought three or four times, and brought away

way a great quantity of black, coagulate Blood that ſtill remained in his Bowels. Afte the operation of the Clyſter, I ordered h ſhould take the compoſing *Hauſtus* as before.

℞ *Urinæ Hominis ſani unc. decem; Tere binth. Veneti cum Vitello Ovi opt. mixt unc. unam; Ol. Chamomillæ unc. unam, Anni gut. ſex. M. f. Enema ſtatim injiciend.*

℞ *Syr. Balſam. Aceti, ana unc. unam ſe mis. M. f. Mixtura cap. cochlear. u num frequenter.*

Repetatur hauſt. Paregor. cap. dimidia par poſt operationem Enematis, pars altera circit medium noctis.

The 17*th*, the Spots totally diſappear'd, and his Fever abated, but he continued ver languid and fainty: I preſcrib'd the followin Medicins.

℞ *Cremor. Tartari, Salis Prunellæ, an dracm. unam; Ol. Garriophillor. gut octo, Cinnamomi gut. quatuor. M. f. Pul. i quatuor chartulas diſtribuend. ex quibus cap. una tertiâ quâque horâ in Cochleari Syrup. Balſam. ſu perbibendo hauſt. Julap. ſequentis.*

℞ *Aq. Cinnamomi Hord. ℔ unam, Epider unc. quatuor; Syrup. Lujulæ unc. una ſemis*

ſemis; Ol. Vitrioli dul. q. ſ. ad moderat. Aciditatem. M. f. Julap.

Repetatur Julap. Cardiacum.

The 18*th* his Fever was in a manner gon, and he began to have an Appetit; ſo I allowed him to eat Whiting, or ſom ſuch thing; the roughneſs and blackneſs of his Tongue were quite gon, but both his Mouth and Tongue were very ſore; he alſo had a little obſtruction in making Water. I preſcrib'd the following Medicins.

Repetantur Pul. & Julap. heſtern. nocte præſcript. Repetatur etiam Enema non ita pridem præſcript.

℞ *Sem. Cydonior. Dracm. unam ſemis; Aq. Fontan. lib. unam; coquantur ad dimidiæ partis conſumt. & coletur; Colaturæ adde Syrup. Altheæ unc. unam. M. f. Gargariſma, frequenter uſurpand.*

℞ *Amygd. Dul. decort. dracm. ſex; Sem. Papaver. Alb. dracm. tres. Sem. Cucurbit. Frig. M. ana dracm. unam; Aq. Roſarum unc. duas, Hordei lib. duas; F. Emulſio S. A. addendo Sacchari albi unc. duas. M. cap. hauſt. larg. frequenter.*

The 19*th*, his Fever was quite gon, but the ſoreneſs of his Mouth and Tongue continued,

as did alſo his difficulty of making Wate but that was ſomwhat better than the day be fore. I preſcrib'd for him as follows.

Repetatur Emulſio.

℞ *Sem. Pſillii, Cydoniorum, ana dracm unc. ſem. Aq. Font.* ℔ *unam; coquantu ad dimidiæ partis conſumt. & coletur; Colatur adde Syr. Altheæ unc. unam, Sacchari Satur ſcrup. unum. M. f. Gargariſma, frequenter u ſurpand.*

℞ *Cremor. Tart. dracm. duas; Cochinill ſcrup. duos; Ol. Cinnamomi gut. quatuo M. f. Pul. in quatuor chart. diſtrib. ex quibus cap unam quartâ quâque horâ in cochlear. Syrup. Be ſam. ſuperbibendo hauſt. Julap. non ita pridu præſcript.*

℞ *Aq. Lactis unc. unam ſemis, Mirabil unc. ſemis; Laud. Liquidi gut.* xx. *Ol Vitrioli dul. gut. decem. M. f. hauſt. cap. h nocte, ſi non bene dormit.*

The 20*th*, his Appetit increaſed, and what he eat he digeſted very well; he began alſo to recover his ſtrength, and could ſit up an hour at a time. I order'd the repetition of his former Medicins.

The 24*th*, I viſited him again, when I found him increaſed in ſtrength to a very great degree. I order'd the following Medicins. ℞

℞ *Crem. Tartari dracm. duas, Cochinillæ dracm. unam. M. f. Pul. in quatuor chartulas distrib. ex quibus cap. unam primò manè & horâ octavâ vesperi, in cochlear. Syrup. Balsam. superbibendo haust. Julap. sequentis.*

℞ *Aq. Cinnamomi Hord. lib. unam, Epidem. unc. quatuor; Syr. Lujulæ unc. unam sem. Ol. Vitrioli dul. q. s. ad moderat. aciditatem. M. f. Julap.*

He persisted in the use of these Medicins till the first of *November*, at which time I prescribed the following Steel Course, to be continued for a fortnight or three weeks.

℞ *Calibis cum Tart. præp. Crem. Tartari, ana dracm. tres; Cardamomi, Cubebar. ana dracm. unam; Conf. Salviæ unc. unam sem. Syr. Garriophillor. q. s. f. Electuarium, cap. quant. nucis moscatæ primò manè & horâ quartâ pomeridianâ, superbibendo haust. Infusionis sequentis:*

℞ *Rad. Eringii unc. duas; Cort. Aurant. dracm. tres; Aq. Font. ℔ unam sem. Vini rubri ℔ unam. Infunde per horas sex, & coletur; Colaturæ adde Syr. Aurantior. unc. duas. M.*

℞ *Rad. consolidæ majoris, Eringii, ana unc. duas; Aq. Font. ℔ quatuor; coquantur*

ad dimidiæ partis conſumtionem, & coletur colaturæ adde Syr. Aurant. unc. duas. M. f. Apozema, cap. hauſt. ſæpius in die.

Before he began the Steel Courſe, he wa very hearty and well; and the only reaſon o my putting him into the Steel Courſe, was t prevent his falling into a Dropſy, or ſom othe Chronical Diſtemper, after the loſs of ſo grea a quantity of Blood, attended with ſo violen a Fever: and I thank God it had the deſire effect.

From the recovery of this young Gentlema may ſeveral things be inferred: As,

Firſt, That *Hemorrhagies* in malignant, pe ſtilential Fevers, are not always to be accoun ed the certain Prognoſtics of future Death nay, would very rarely prove ſo, were pro per Acids given in plentiful quantities.

Secondly, That the worthy Gentleman, wh is the great Patron of *Phlebotomy*, dos only fol low Nature's Dictates, when he preſcribe Bloodletting in malignant Fevers.

Thirdly, That Malignant, Peſtilential Fe vers may ſafely and certainly be cur'd withou the uſe of any of the nauſeous Tribe of *Alexi pharmics*, which very rarely are of any othe uſe, than to ſend the Patient to his long hom in a ſhort time.

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The True Account of an Extraordinary Cure wrought by Bathing in Cold Water, sent to me by my Worthy Friend Dr. *Baynard*, from the *Bath*.

The Case of Samuel Crew *Gent. of* Lacock *in the County of* Wilts, *taken before* Edward Montague *of* Lacham, *Esq; and several other Gentlemen, then at his House present, all which very well knew his Condition, being of the Neighborhood.*

I The said *Samuel Crew*, about two years since, was seiz'd with a most intolerable Pain in my right Elbow, from thence the Pain went into the Insteps of both Feet, thence into my other Arm, and the lower end of my Back-bone; thence into the Nape of my Neck: But after it had seiz'd my Neck, it

ſpread all over me, not only in my Joints but Fleſh alſo, inſomuch that the Calf of my Leg was contracted as hard as any Iron Wedge and ſo continued three quarters of a year with ſuch racking Pains as are inexpreſſible. My Belly ſeem'd to be clove to my Back-bone inſomuch that it was all hollow like a Diſh and would hold water when I lay upon my Back. My Fundament was drawn up three or four inches into my Body; and I was grown ſo thin and extreme poor, that I was raw, and gall'd with lying, and louſy with poverty of Fleſh; and had ſuch Pains in my Ears, that if a red hot Iron had bin run into them, they could not have bin worſe. I lay upon my Back half a year, not being able to ſtir or move hand or foot all that time: In ſhort, the Pain did ſo diſtract me, that I hallow'd and hoop'd like a madman with extremity of miſery, inſomuch that I really thought Hell could not be worſe; nor is it poſſible for any Tongue to tell, or Pen to write the Miſeries I endured. I was worn to a mere Skeleton; and when I went to ſtool, which was once in four or five days, and then forced by Purging Syrups, *&c.* no Woman in extreme Labor could have more pain, cauſed thro the contraction of my Fundament. I had ſeveral able Phyſicians with me, to whom my Caſe is well known; they preſcribed me Purging, Bleeding much, and very often; they ſweat me a whole month together. I

took

took *Viper Powders*, *Crabs Eys*, *Pearl Cordials*, *Sal Volatil*, *Spirit of Sal Armoniac*, *Spirit of Harts-horn*, *Oil of Tartar*, and ſeveral other Drops, and all the *Waod-Drinks*, and all to no purpoſe: I went to the *Bath*, and there bathed, which ſo increas'd my Pains, that I am well ſatisfied, one Eſſay more in the *Bath* would have coſt me my Life, even in the Waters. At laſt meeting with Dr. *Baynard*, he perſuaded me to go into Cold Water over head and ears, every day faſting, and uſe the Decoction of *Wild Sage*, *Ground Ivy*, *Ground Pine*, *Germander* and *White Hoar hound*, acidulated with Crab-Verjuice, for my conſtant Drink, which I did; and in ſix days immerſion in the Water, and uſing the Drink, I was well, ſo well as to walk about my Grounds: all my Pains inſenſibly vaniſh'd; my Stomach, which was quite loſt and decayed, was reſtored; I got ſtrength, ſlept ſound, my Fleſh came on, and my Color came into my Face. All this is well known to the Neighborhood and Country around, which with my humble Acknowledgments to Almighty God for this my great Cure, I atteſt to be literally true.

Given at Mr. *Montague's* Houſe at *Lacham*, *June* 2. 1696.

Witneſs my Hand,

Samuel Crew.

[There is of late a cold Spring found out in the Fields at the end of *Greys-Inn Lane*, over which there is a House erected, and in all respects much greater conveniences than are to be met with either at the cold Baths at *St. Mongus* in *Yorkshire*, or St. *Winifred*'s in *Wales*; and the Water is in all respects as cold as either of them. Now the wonderful usefulness of Cold Waters in most Paralitic Distempers, and som Cutaneous ones, is such, that I am not ashamed to recommend them to the World.]

The Poſtſcript of a Letter from Mr. William Matthews *Apothecary of* Ledbury *in* Herefordſhire.

HAVING Time and Paper, I acquaint you with an Obſervation I have made of a Specific generally uſed here by the common people for the cure and prevention of the Small-Pox, which is, to drink frequently *Raddle*, *Terra Rubrica* (a thing known to every body in that Country) I think *Engliſh Bole*; it either prevents the Infection, or they that have it, very few and favorable: none die that uſe it.

A Child about a year old was taken violently with Convulſive Fits, and deſpaired of by Phyſicians: The Aſſiſtants were adviſed to apply young Pigeons, the Breeches to the *Anus*, till they lived; if the firſt lived, it was a ſign they would do no good: Seven were applied one after another as faſt as they died, which was immediatly in leſs than half a minute; the eighth lived, and the Child recover'd immediatly, and had no more Fits. The like I experimented upon a Neighbor's Child, but we could get but three, which all died; yet the Child recover'd very well. Afterwards being ſent for to a Woman who complained of a convulſive Pain in her Side, and had bin near three weeks in that Condition, and gon

thro

thro ſeveral Methods, *Cathartics*, *Opiats*, &c. to no purpoſe, I adviſed the Pigeons; ten or eleven died, the twelfth lived, and the Woman well recovered: ſhe was emaciated with her Pains to a mere Skeleton, and Death in her Face, but is now healthy and plump.

But ſince, a Man troubled with Convulſive Motions, ſomtimes in the *Colon*, ſomtimes in the *Sphincter* Muſcle of the Bladder, ſomtimes in the Hands and Feet; the Pigeons were applied, but had no effect; for tho ſeveral were applied, not one died, or was the worſe for it.

To the Child before-mentioned they died ſo quickly, that a Gentlewoman preſent feared the Maid that applied them might hold them too hard, which might occaſion their dying ſo ſuddenly; therfore ſhe would her ſelf apply them, and ſhe did it with the greateſt tenderneſs imaginable; yet as ſoon as fixt to the place, they ſprawl'd out their Legs and died.

There is ſcarce any one that has bin long a Practitioner, who has not made ſom Obſervations of the operations of Specific Medicins. Now whoever has made any Obſervations of this nature, if they will be ſo kind as to communicat them to me, they ſhall not fail of being made public for the common benefit of Mankind; with the Names of the Perſons who ſhall communicat them.

Juſt

Juſt as the laſt Sheet was in the Preſs, I received the following Letter from an unknown Hand; and having received many of the ſame nature, I have preſumed to publiſh this, and to make ſom ſhort Animadverſions upon it.

Worthy Sir,

EXCUSE this Trouble from a Stranger, whoſe unhappineſs it is to live ſo remote, as not to be capable to have the Honor of viſiting and converſing with you: Yet permit me to tell you, that I have applied my ſelf to the ſtudy of Phyſic divers years paſt, but have never yet preſcribed any, unleſs in Charity to a few *Paupers*. Sir, I have read both your Books of *Alkalies* and *Acids*, I have read them over and over again; alſo I have your *Novum Lumen Chirurgicum*. I confeſs they ſeem to be very ingeniouſly wrote, and (as you declare) for the benefit of Mankind; and that I eaſily believe, becauſe you are ſo free and liberal in printing your Receits. When you preſcribe Acids in the Gout, Conſumtion, *&c.* I am at a ſtand in my Study, and know not what Book to read next, ſince your new Doctrin contradicts all I have yet read in Phyſic. I did then make it my buſineſs to inquire of the Learned Men of my Acquaintance, what was your

your Education, and what their opinion of your Poſitions in your Books. The Phyſicians I have met with, tell me you were bred an Apothecary (as I think you ſay in one of your Books) and they will allow you to be a very good one. They will allow alſo, that you have got out of the Fire, by your aſſiduous Labor, an excellent Medicin to cure Wounds; but they admire extremely (conſidering your Youth and ſmall time of Practice) that you are ſo poſitive and dogmatical in your Writings about Phyſic, ſince you contradict the Practice of ſo many eminent and worthy Phyſicians of the former, and this preſent Age, who will no more admit of Novelties in Phyſic, than Divines will in Religion. I told them I ſhould be glad to ſee an Anſwer to your Books by ſome able Phyſician; to which they replied, you were not yet run to the length of your Line, for you are now about a Treatiſe of the *Gout*, of the different Species of thoſe Attacks, and proper Medicins to cure each of them; in which preſumptuous Undertaking you will ſo far expoſe your weakneſs, that after the publication therof, all your Books ſhall be anſwered and refelled together. Sir, I heartily wiſh they may be deceived in their expectation, and that you may not be deceived in yours. I humbly adviſe you to publiſh none of your Receits with your Treatiſe of the Gout; for if it ſhall happen that they anſwer not what you promiſe for them, you will expoſe your

ſelf

self to the Censure of your Adversaries: Whilst on the other hand, if they shall prove as effectual as you expect, it is great reason that you should reap the sole benefit therof to your self, (during Life at least) and you may leave them after your Decease, a good Portion to your Son, or Jointure to your Widow. Nor think this Counsel too mean for your generous Soul, since divers eminent Physicians pretend to *Nostrums* of their own Invention, and conceal the Receits, and keep the Profits thence arising to themselves. The Surgeons I have conversed with, touching your Pouder and Tincture, for the cure of External and Internal Wounds, seem to be of a more angry and rigid Temper; they admire you should enter into their Province, and meddle in their Profession, which is but collateral, if not quite forein to your Education. I have made them confess that your Syringe is better than their Probes, and that it will reach farther, and with less danger to the Patient. They have confest also that you are in the right as to your prohibition of the use of Tents, since they keep the Wound open, and procrastinat Cures, rather than expedite them; but they will not allow that your external Medicin will cure any thing but cut Fingers and gall'd Horses; and that your internal Medicin is good only for the Gripes, and to procure rest. They confess you have cured som few Cuts with a Sword in four days, but they were such as a Dog would have

have lick'd whole in three: but a Wound made with a Gun-ſhot you never made any application to, or pretended to cure it. They indeed ſay, that in the Year Ninety Four you did dedicate a Book to the King, extolling the wonderful Cures effected by your Medicins in *Flanders*: but they admire at your Confidence, ſince few of thoſe Cures were ever perfected; and if any of them were made, they were made by the Surgeons of the reſpective Regiments. They ſay farther, That you have never given any one Inſtance of any Cures wrought at the famous Siege of *Namur*, tho you were preſent all the time.

Sir, Theſe Reports they have induſtriouſly ſpread abroad; whether true or falſe I know not: but I deſire you will take it kindly from me, to acquaint you with what is ſaid, which I preſume was never ſaid to your face, nor can you com to the knowlege therof any other way. I confeſs their Diſcourſe ſeemed to be ſeaſoned with the Salt of *Demetrius* and his Followers, who made Shrines for the Goddeſs *Diana*; wherfore I will ſuſpend my Judgment, and alſo my farther ſtudy in Phyſic, till I ſee your Diſcourſe of the Gout, which with impatience is expected,

Dated at York, Nov. 30. 1696.

By your unknown, yet faithful Servant and Welwiſher,

T. S.

The

The Gentleman who wrote me this Letter (whoſe Name I ſhould be glad to know) ſeems to be a man of Candor and Ingenuity. And I muſt confeſs, that the Doctrin I have advanced is ſo directly contrary to every thing that has bin yet wrote, that it is enough to ſtartle any young Man, nay ſom old ones too: But for all that, the Novelty of the thing is no argument why I ſhould not inculcat it in the cleareſt manner I can. The *Circulation of the Blood* thro the Arteries and Veins of Human Bodies, was as old as *Adam*, yet we don't find it ever clearly demonſtrated by any one before our Great *Harvy*'s time. And becauſe no man had wrote upon that Subject before, (nay the Opinions of all Mankind were directly oppoſit to it, tho it were as demonſtrable and clear, as that two and two make four; nay I admire how people could be ſo ſottiſh, as to ſee Blood run from a Vein below the Ligature, and not from thence infer a Circulation) muſt he therfore omit it for fear of diſpleaſing the reſt of his Brethren? If ingenious men ſhould take ſuch a courſe, we muſt never expect Improvements in any Profeſſion. But there never yet was any one that advanced a new thing, tho never ſo clear and demonſtrable, but all the reſt of his Profeſſion were up in Arms againſt him. It is an innat Principle in the minds of moſt men, not to allow any man to be more knowing in his Profeſſion than him-

himſelf. Every man almoſt would have the World believe, that he knows as much or more in his own Profeſſion than any beſides. But if a Perſon ſtarts up, and advances ſomething in a Profeſſion that was not known before, he is immediatly cried out upon for an Innovator at leaſt, if not for a Madman. This was *Harvy*'s Caſe; very few in his time believing, or at leaſt owning the Circulation of the Blood, tho it be now the common received Opinion of almoſt all Mankind. *Harvy* inculcated his Doctrin ſo clearly, that 'tis almoſt impoſſible any Phyſician ſhould be unconvinced of its truth: But they were then aſhamed to own it, for fear people ſhould ſee they were ſubject to Miſtakes as well as other men; and if they were miſtaken in ſo great a Point as the Circulation of the Blood, why not in others as much material? Phyſic is not brought to its *Acme* of Perfection. There are a great many Diſtempers we can't tell how to cure with any ſort of certainty; therfore that Man who has made any Diſcoveries which may tend to relieve men in diſtreſs, is worſe than a Brute, if he dos not communicat them, let his Treatment for ſo doing be never ſo ill. And to thoſe who believe the Sacred Writings, it is one of the greateſt comforts to be evilly treated for well doing, by reaſon that ſuch are accounted Bleſſed.

As for my being bred an Apothecary, I am not aſhamed to own it, as the greateſt Lawyer

ers are not aſhamed of their being bred Attornies. And many of the greateſt of them have bin ſo.

As for the great Threats that are daily thundred out, of my being confuted; they are but mere Scarecrows to me. I am ſo far from being afraid of it, that I ſhould be heartily glad to ſee it don: For whoever ſhall by ſolid and ſubſtantial Experiments make it appear that I am in the wrong, ſhall be my great *Apollo*; and the firſt thing I do, ſhall be to write a public Recantation. [But as for thoſe many Tracts which have hitherto bin wrote againſt me, both before and ſince the firſt publication of this Treatiſe, if I may be allowed to judg in my own Cauſe, I can't forbear ſaying, that I think the Authors have more ſhewn their skill in Raillery and *Billingſgate* Language, than in ſtrength of Argument to overthrow my *Hypotheſis*; and where ill Language is uſed in the place of Arguments, it is enough to give judicious men a ſuſpicion, that the Cauſe which wants to be ſupported by ſuch Methods is not the beſt.]

The concealing of any thing I know, that may be any ways ſerviceable to Mankind, is what for the future I ſhall never do. I had better have given five hundred Pounds than have kept my Vulnerary Pouder and Tincture as Secrets; and had it not bin for making my ſelf ſom part of ſatisfaction for the great Loſſes I ſuſtained by going to *Flanders*, I

would never have ſold them, but made them publick.

As for what ſom of the Surgeons continue to ſay of me, I am not in the leaſt concern'd; but Juſtice to the Gentleman who bought the Vulnerary Pouder and Tincture of me, with the Receit for making the ſame, obliges me to aſſert that they will do more than cure the Gripes and cut Fingers. And ſince they ſay I have given no Inſtance of any Cure wrought at the famous Siege of *Namur*, I ſhall here preſume to give an account of one, wherby their Poſitions will be totally overthrown.

One Mr. *Cherry*, a Serjeant of Grenadiers, in the Regiment of the Honorable Col. *Frederick Hamilton*, was, at the Attack of the *Terra Nova* of the Caſtle of *Namur*, wounded in twenty ſix places; twenty three of them were made with Bullets, and three large Cuts in his Head with a Sword. He lay forty eight hours ſtript naked upon the Breach, without a bit of Bread or drop of Drink, or having any thing don to his Wounds. Upon the Capitulation ſeveral of our Soldiers going up to the Breach to look after their dead Officers, found him alive; ſo they brought him down to me to the Hoſpital at the Abby of *Salſine*; he was as cold as a dead Corps, and ſo weak that he could ſcarce ſpeak. There were two Bullets that went thro his Body, in juſt below the ſhort Ribs on one ſide, and out on the other. He had ſeven Shots in his left Arm, the

Bone

Bone being broken and ſhatter'd to pieces, at leaſt three Inches of it taken quite away: To be ſhort, there was ſcarce one Limb that was not wounded more or leſs; and yet this Man was cured without applying any thing in the world to his Wounds but the Vulnerary Pouder, and giving him the Tincture inwardly; and thro the whole courſe of his Cure he had never any thing of a Fever. The truth of this will be atteſted by Mr. *Thomas Davis* Surgeon, in *Norfolk-ſtreet*, who had the care of him.

If any will enquire of the Honorable Colonel *Ingoldsby*, I am ſure he will give them an account of a great many Soldiers of his Regiment that were wounded at the ſame time, who were cured by the ſame Means, as were a great many in other Regiments.

I have lately had an Account of a Country Surgeon who cut a Perſon for the Stone, and by means of the Vulnerary Pouder cured the Wound in four days.

As for what I have ſaid in that Piece I dedicated to his Majeſty, it is not in the power of the moſt malicious of my Enemies to contradict the Truth of any one of the Relations there given. But for what is ſaid concerning the Regimental Surgeons, there is ſomwhat of truth in that; all, or the greateſt part of what was don that Year, being perform'd by Mr. *Cholmly* Surgeon to the Honorable Col. *Brewers* Regiment, by my direction, I never

pretending to operat in Surgery my ſelf, unleſs upon ſom very urgent Occaſions, where a profeſſed Surgeon was not to be had.

[There are a great many People in *London* and other parts of *England*, who confidently ſell a Pouder and Tincture, which they call mine: But thoſe People who buy them of any one beſides Mr. *Brown* Bookſeller without *Temple-Bar*, and Mr. *Raddiſon* in *Rupert-ſtreet* at the end of *Piccadilly*, if they find their expectations not anſwerd in the uſe of them, muſt not blame me, but themſelves for being impoſed upon, by reaſon I have 2 or 3 times before given notice that the true Medicins, which I will own and ſtand by, are only to be had of the foreſaid Mr. *Brown* and Mr. *Raddiſon*.]

While I was writing this, by chance I met with the following Paſſage in *Juncken*, in his *Med. Præſenti ſeculo accommod.* pag. 250. and he being a Man who all along accounts for the Cauſe of Diſeaſes from the Blood's abounding with too great a quantity of Acids, the thing ſeems to be the more ſtrange, and is the more to be depended on.

Sal in genere à rerum Conditore infinitis bonitatibus dotatum eſt: Fermentationem juvat, alimenta digerit, putredinem arcet, appetitum excitat, terram fœcundat; hinc Maritimi populi terram ſale impregnatam effodiunt, & agris inſpergunt, & omne hoc acidi ratione: Ubi è contra Alkalia carnem mortificant, & putredinem

nem promovent; *& niſi horum ferociam eluderet acidus ſalis ſpiritus, mox omnia corrumperentur.*

Who could have deſired more than this from a Friend? But coming from an Enemy, it carries the more weight and force along with it.

And thus I ſhall conclude, leaving this Piece to ſtand or fall as it deſerves. If Mankind receives any advantage by it, I have my end. The Critics I am ſure will carp at it, being wrote in ſo homely a Stile; but I have not aimed to tickle mens Fancies, but to inform their Judgments, and undeceive them in a matter of the greateſt conſequence.

The Gentleman who wrote me the following Letter, but a month before rail'd at my Doctrin of *Acids* the moſt that could be; tho I am ſure he did it on no other ſcore than becauſe he thought my Hypotheſis to be erroneous.

Digniſſime,

CONtra Juſtitiæ Morumque normam peccarem, ſi virum cui Deo proximo vitam debeam, ſilentio præteritem. Nuper enim cum è luce penè evaſiſſem, tu mihi propitius adſtetiſti, candide effulſiſti, Tu meus Apollo. Ut autem quanto laboravi periculo, quam vix ac ne vix mortem effugi, Certus ſcies, & Morbi Naturam & Methodum Therapeuticam, ſeu Thanatephoram potiùs, paucis hic dicam. Hebdomada eſt, & ea quæ exturrit,

rit, quâ lethali quodam frigore correptus Ventr
culus, officio fungi respuebat: Abhinc vires la
factare, animus delinquere, donec tandem Lip
thymiam passus procubui. Iterum verò reverte
animo, dum causam meditor tanti mihi ma
eccè adventabat fortè tunc Medicus, Doctus m
herculè, & mihi familiaris: Is uti sanguin
Dyscrasin ob Acidi plus nimio oriri censebat; V
latilia & Alkalia omnia ad motum, & calore
exsuscitandum jubebat; igitur Sp. Sal. Arm. Sa
C. C. Vol, Vinum ustum, & similia, nocte dieq
ingerebam: Vesicatoria insuper perquam ampl
& Enemata corroborantia continuò applicantur
frustrà tamen omnia, nec enim motum excitaban
nec colorem; at Sudores immodici, & frigid
Membrorum rigor, Cordis palpitatio, & Pulsu
subinde intermissio subitam intentabant morte
Animo mecum verò revolvente, quæ & aliàs ex
pertus sum, & quæ ipse nuperrimè de Acidis scrip
tis mandâsti, Aquæ fontanæ parùm acidulat
libram unam, deinde alteram, exhauriebam
cui horæ parte minus quartâ, & Membrorum de
bitus Calor, & benigna ubique transpiratio
successit: tunc arteriarum fortis micatio, alv
facilis exoneratio. Hoc temporis momento, tan
subitâ mutatio, me ad Consilium vestrum peten
dum appulit; ex quo in melius cessi, Vires con
tinuò recuperavi, vixi. His consona omnim
Baynardus quidam, M. D. Facultate suâ inter
Notissimos, qui ægritudinis sub initio mihi etiam
adfuit, suasit; at Consilium ejus neglexi, he
quantum neglexi Consilium! Hoc enim orbi at
testari

ſtari non erubeſcerem me nempe Acidi ſolùm be-
neficio, ab ipſo mortis articulo eripi. Tantum
non Jugulatis armatæ Medicinæ! Hìc habes ſtu-
dioſiſſime ſtatùs noſtri relationem, quæ pro viribus
licèt imbecillis tamen animo quam forti, & non in-
grato conſcripta; ab

Amico tuo Fideli,

& Servo obedientiſſimo,

Dec. 19. 1696. N. Tyrling.

FINIS.

Newly publiſh'd.

AN Account of the firſt Voyages and Diſcoveries made by t
Spaniards in *America*. Containing the moſt exact Relation h
therto publiſh'd, of their unparallel'd Cruelties on the *Indians*,
the deſtruction of above 40 Millions of People. Together wi
the Propoſitions offered to the King of *Spain* to prevent the f
ther Ruin of the *Weſt-Indies*. By *Don Bartholomew de las Ca*
Biſhop of *Chiapa*, who was an Eye witneſs of their Cruelti
Illuſtrated with Cuts. To which is added, *The Art of Travelli*
ſhewing how a Man may diſpoſe his Travels to the beſt adv
tage. *London*, Printed for *Daniel Brown* at the Black Sw
and Bible without *Temple-Bar*, and *Andr. Bell* at the Croſs-k
and Bible in *Cornhil*. 1699.